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# VOYAGE

## TO THE

# EAST INDIES

In 1747 and 1748.

### CONTAINING

<p>An account of the islands of ST. HELENA and JAVA. Of the city of BATAVIA. Of the government and political conduct of the Dutch</p>	<p>Of the empire of CHINA, with a particular de- scription of CANTON; and of the religious ce- remonies, manners and customs of the inhabi- tants of the said em- pire.</p>
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INTERSPERSED WITH

Many useful and curious OBSERVATIONS  
and ~~ANALYSES~~

And illustrated with ~~COPPER-PLATES.~~

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# P R E F A C E

By ~~JOHN DE LA BECHE~~ R.

**T**HERE are perhaps no books more entertaining and useful than faithful narratives of voyages: they not only gratify curiosity by a variety of adventure, and by delineating the different appearances of nature in the remotest parts of the globe; but by making us acquainted with the laws, manners, and customs of foreign nations, enable us to consider society in a more philosophic and comprehensive view.

But to a trading nation, like ours, the advantages derived from them are still more obvious; as they powerfully excite curiosity, promote a spirit of enterprize, and sometimes reflect a light upon circumstance, from whence commerce, the great source of the power and influence of these kingdoms, may be improved.

How far the present publication may contribute to any of these valuable purposes,

poses, the editor will not pretend to ascertain: while compilations, however, done from other compilations, and voyage written by those who never travelled beyond the limits of a country lodging, are often read with avidity, he flatters himself, the ensuing pages, the genuine production of a *real* traveller, an officer in the service of the East India Company who seems to have been an accurate observer, and who describes chiefly what he has seen, will meet with a favourable reception from the public.

His descriptions, whether of persons, places, or things, will generally be found natural and correct, yet lively and agreeable; his remarks just, yet often new and diversified: his sentiments are every where liberal and manly, tinged with that degree of humanity which ought to distinguish a citizen of the world, yet not inconsistent with a proper attachment to his country as an Englishman.

The truth of our author's reflections with regard to the usurpations and tyrannic behaviour of the Dutch in India, which by some may perhaps be consid-

as too severe, both their past and present conduct too evidently confirm : in particular, their treatment of the king of Madura, and captain Congreve, and their *precluding* us from any share of the trade to Bengal, are facts too recent to be forgotten.— Had our countrymen opposed their encroachments and checked their insolence, with that gallantry and spirit which colonel Clive exerted on occasion of their late attempt in the river of Bengal, what valuable branches of trade might we not have still been possessed of ! — But over-awed by an ill-founded opinion of their vast power in that part of the world, we have almost always tamely submitted to every hardship, every indignity they have been pleased to impose.

His account of Canton and its environs, is more copious and exact than any hitherto published : having during six months residence there, in which time he had little else to do than to gratify his curiosity, been assiduous and indefatigable in his enquiries ; in which too he was greatly assisted by cultivating an intimacy with a Chinese merchant, a man endowed with a degree of knowledge and sagacity,

city, greatly beyond what is commonly possessed by people of that class.

Whatever he has borrowed from other writers, in regard to the manners, religion and government of the Chinese he has abridged of those exaggerated circumstances, and improbabilities which often render the relations given us by travellers ridiculous. In this part of the work, from his collecting authentic information on the spot, he enjoys much the same advantages as a painter who finishes a picture begun by another, which he has an opportunity of correcting from nature.

The style of this performance is in general plain and intelligible, *ter. les-terms* are admitted, except in such places as are intended for the benefit of gentlemen who visit the tea, where the bearings and distances of head-lands, the foundings or shoals, roads and harbours, or the setting of currents, &c. are mentioned.

The tables of Chinese money and weights, and his cautions with regard to the artful management of these last, may be useful to traders.—The prices of goods, and  
the

# P R E F A C E. vii

the demand for them at different markets, are intended for the same purpose, although it must be acknowledged the nature of such accounts, however recent, is too fluctuating and uncertain to be depended on.

The cuts and figures were, mostly designed by the author himself; which, however defective in point of elegance, serve sometimes to convey an idea of what cannot so easily be expressed in words.

As the editor has not the presumption to imagine that this performance, any more than others of the same kind, can be altogether free from errors and defects, he only begs leave to conclude with expressing his hopes of meeting from the generality of readers, with that degree of candor and indulgence, which is due to every man who attempts, however imperfectly, to contribute his mite to the general fund of knowledge, or to the entertainment of the public.





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JOURNAL  
OF A  
VOYAGE.  
TO THE  
EAST INDIES.

ON Thursday the 30th of July 1746, I set out from London for Gravesend, where I was agreeably entertained to see a great number of people on board the vessel, in which I was appointed to go to the East Indies, and the vast preparations, and quantities of provisions, on board, to supply the necessities of so long a voyage.

Next day several young people came on board, insisted to go in the service of the  
B East

2 *From ENGLAND to ST. HELENA.*

*East India Company, where they were to remain for the space of five years, at least.*

Among these came a young person, very indifferently dressed, discovering a very effeminate look and voice, and an awkward carriage, who seemed very impatient to be received. The surgeon at Gravesend, whose office it is to examine all persons who are to go the voyage, that they are free of itch, pox, or any infectious distemper, discovered this young person to be a woman, and, to her great grief, rejected her. She owned, that she was induced to take this step from love to a young man on board, who was enlisted in the Company's service; and that her passion for him was so strong, that no hardship or inconvenience could deter her from following his fortune.

On the 2d of August we weighed anchor, passed the Nore, saluted the Royal Sovereign with nine guns, and came to an anchor in the Downs on the 3d. As the wind was variable, we were obliged to come to an anchor every now and then. On the 5th, at night, we passed Dungeness light-house, and, on the 8th, anchored in St. Helen's road.

On

*On the 10th* we received on board our treasure from Portsmouth, and, among the rest, a fine large stone-horse, designed as a present from the Company to the Sultan of Benjar, an Indian Prince on the island of Borneo. After taking in more fresh provisions, we weighed anchor, and made the best of our way towards Plymouth. On the 29th we came to an anchor in Cawson bay, where, not caring to break upon our store, we sent our long-boat ashore for fresh water. Here we were to wait for a convoy. We were supplied at this place with plenty of bread, fish, &c. in small boats, rowed by a parcel of the stoutest and most masculine women I ever saw.

On the 5th of September we had very thick weather, with hard gales of wind from S. W. so that we were obliged to lower our fore and main yards, and give great scope of cable, and even to strike our topmasts.

On the 6th in the morning the weather abated; but, in the evening of that day, it blowed very hard. We heard the Norfolk fire several guns as signals of distress. She had parted her cable, and had run adrift before it was discovered; and she was

4 *From ENGLAND to ST. HELENA.*

obliged to anchor within the beacon, on the east side of the Sound, in<sup>a</sup> foul and rocky ground. But, by the assistance of some of the men of war, she was again brought to an anchor in Cawson bay.

From the 7th to the 16th, we were employed in putting every thing in order aboard, and, on the 17th, the Mermaid man of war was appointed our convoy, and gave a signal for unmooring the same night.

- On Sunday the 20th of September we got under sail, the wind at N. N. E. When at sea, we cleared our ship fore and aft, and exercised our great guns and small arms.

On the 22d, our people were put to the allowance of five pounds biscuit each per week. This day we were amused with great numbers of porpoises tumbling about the ship.

• On the 26th we had a very swelling sea, and were put to the allowance of two quarts of beer to each man per diem.

On the 27th we parted with our convoy, and made the best of our way for the island of St. Helena, for which we had several stores on board.

On

On the 9th of October, we found ourselves in lat.  $38^{\circ} 32'$  N. and longit.  $22^{\circ} 16'$ . For some days past, we had been agreeably entertained with porpoises, grampuses, albigores, and dolphins, playing about our vessel, and with great numbers of small birds of different kinds flying over our heads, some of which had built nests in the hay-bags on the ship's gunnel, which we carried with us for the Sultan's horse.

We were now beginning to feel the hot climate, so that the allowance of water, with the greatest oeconomy, was little enough to quench thirst. We put an awning on the quarter-deck, to keep off the scorching heat of the sun.

On the 14th, the Porterfield parted from us, and stood Southward, in lat.  $27^{\circ}$ ,  $27'$ . and longit.  $25^{\circ}$ ,  $15'$ . Several of our young people now began to discover symptoms of the scurvy: they were ordered to increase their exercise, nothing being a better remedy for it.

• On passing the Tropic, and entering the Torrid-Zone, all the people on board, who had never gone this voyage, according to custom, treated their companions with punch, bumbo, &c. and gave hopes of be-

## 6 *From ENGLAND to ST. HELENA.*

ing all in a healthy state. In the way, we caught several fish, and particularly a large porpoise, measuring nine feet in length. It made a strong resistance in the sea, and coloured the water with its blood. After we got him on board, we opened his belly, and found numberless small fishes. Some of our people eat part of the flesh, which resembles that of a hog; but his bones are much larger.

On the 25th, the heat was intolerable, being in lat.  $8^{\circ}, 4'$  and longit.  $25^{\circ}, 13'$ .

On the 6th of November we found the variation of the compass to be  $3^{\circ}, 3'$ .—latitude to be  $1^{\circ}, 9'$ .—longitude to be  $27^{\circ}, 20'$ . West from the Lizard, being now near the coast of Brasil.

On the 7th of November, the vessel was suddenly affected with an uncommon shaking and trembling for four minutes, without any apparent cause. It surprised all on board, and was so sensibly felt, that it awakened some of our people from sleep. We were at a loss to assign a reason for it. Some imagined the ship's bottom had perhaps touched a rock; but, on trying the pumps, all was found safe. Nor can we imagine the cause of this sudden tremulous

lous motion, unless it was occasioned by an earth-quake.

On the 8th, we passed the Equinoctial, where again, according to an established custom, those who had not made this voyage before paid a bottle of brandy and a pound of sugar; or, instead of these, half-a-crown, to be spent in treating the ship's company. At this time all of us were alive, and in good spirits.

We could hardly put a stop to the frequent thefts that were committed by the soldiers, though every day one or two of them were tied to the shrouds, and severely whipt. It is indeed the less to be wondered at, as these wretches, who go as soldiers in the company's service, are for the most part the scum of the three kingdoms, and generally go to India to screen themselves from justice at home. By their laziness and inactivity, they were over-run with vermine, and began to complain of swellings in their legs, soreness in their bones, and other symptoms of the scurvy. To prevent their infecting the ship's company, they were brought upon deck, put into a large vessel of hot water, brushed with scrubbing-brushes, and



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all their clothes and bedding thrown over board.

We had now heavy and continual rains, with prodigious lightning, which is common in this part of the world.

On the 2d of December, we had a large swelling sea, with easterly winds. At five in the morning we were surpris'd with a large water-spout, within three ships-length of our starboard-side. It had no sooner pass'd our ship, than a sudden puff of wind laid us gunwall to, which was over before we could lower our sails. We had frequent dewfalls in the night, which are very dangerous, and often mortal, if they happen to rest on the naked breast or body of a man, while asleep on the deck. A great deal of our salted pork was so rotten, that we threw several casks of it over-board.

On the 17th, had cloudy weather; employed our cooper to set up all the water-casks, which we had knocked down as soon as they were empty, for the sake of room.

The 22d, we kept a good look-out for St. Helena, and found ourselves to be in lat. 16°, 6'; and, on the 23d, we observed  
several

several pigeon flying about the ship, a sure indication that we were near land.

As we knew that we were not far from the island, and that if we once passed it, and got to leeward, it is difficult, nay, sometimes, impossible to beat up against the wind and current; we were, therefore, very cautious how we proceeded, went all night with little sail, and appointed people on the fore-castle to keep a strict look-out.

On the 24<sup>th</sup>, at two in the morning, we discovered the island bearing N.N.E. We hauled up to the Southward, till five in morning, when we again bore away for the island. At seven, being pretty well in with the land, we sent the yawl ashore to the fort, to acquaint the Governor of our arrival, and kept on with an easy sail. We had variable breezes, which drove us off the anchoring ground, and obliged us to make several tacks, in order to fetch into the road, where, about noon, we came to an anchor in twenty fathom water.

We saluted the fort with nine guns, which the fort returned. In the evening we warped the ship nearer the shore, having the street of St. James's Valley open.

Ve

We were now all very glad of seeing land once more, and at the thought of getting refreshments from the shore.

Next day we were employed in laying moorings for our long-boat, clearing the ship, and sending ashore twenty-nine soldiers, four hogshheads of brandy, cases of stockings and shoes, and other goods belonging to the East-India Company.

The soldiers, and people of the island, were so glad of our arrival with stores, being almost starved for want of them, that great numbers of them, from the parade in the valley, waved their hats, huzzaing with the loudest acclamations of joy.

On the 28th, we landed the timber and stones we had on board for building a new house for the Governor of the island. An unlucky accident happened to some of our people, who had been employed in hauling part of the timber on the beach. When they were coming off, they hauled the long-boat towards the crane, to take the people in, but the sea, breaking very high, filled the boat, and broke the stopper in her stern. She swang along-side the rocks, hanging her bow fast by the hauler. The men were all washed out, and very much bruised,  
but

but not one perished. We heard their cries in the ship, and immediately dispatched the pinnace to their assistance: some of them were swimming, others were cast by the waves upon the rocks. The people in the pinnace, in order to save one who was sinking, caught him by the mouth with the boat-hook, and, tho' he was saved from drowning, yet his mouth was so lacerated, that it was necessary to sew it up from the corner almost to his ear. It was a long time before any of them recovered this unlucky accident. They were all carried to the valley, and taken proper care of. The long-boat was hoisted on board, to be repaired.

We received from the shore fresh beef, and plenty of greens, which was very refreshing to the ship's company; having subsisted on salt provisions (some of which were stinking, and almost rotten) ever since we came from England.

On the 1st of January 1747, we sent our baker on shore to bake our quantity of biscuit over again, that which we brought from England with us having turned mouldy; we sent our boat also for new hay for the use of the Sultan's horse.

The

The 13th we received on board six live bullocks, and some plantain trees to feed them. The people came on board also who had been hurt by the long-boat's running among the rocks, all pretty well recovered. We were now preparing to leave the island, having delivered all our stores, and received our water and provisions.

A N

## A C C O U N T

O F T H E

## ISLAND ST. HELENA.

ST. HELENA, so named by the Portuguese, who discovered it on St. Helen's day, in 1502, lies in the latitude of  $16^{\circ}$  South, and  $10^{\circ}$  West longitude from the Lizard, almost mid-way between Angola and Brazil, or the continent of Africa and South America, about 620 leagues N. W.  $\frac{1}{2}$ W. from the Cape of Good-Hope, and, I believe, one of the most distant islands from any land that has been found in the known world.

There is no sailing to this island from the Northward, the wind almost always blowing from the S. E. in those seas: so that, tho' it is a kind of store-house, or half-way-house, for all the East-India Com-

14 *An Account of ST. HELENA.*

Company's ships, yet it is only visited by them on their return; for few outward bound vessels touch at it, unless when they have on board stores for the island, which was our case.

The island is about 21 miles in circumference, and consists of one vast rock, steep on every side, and very high, and, when seen at sea, has the appearance of a lofty castle in the middle of the ocean, whose natural fortifications are so tremendous and high, that it would appear, there could be no scaling of them, nor indeed any possibility of finding a landing place.

There is no landing place for bulky things on the island but one, at a place called Chapel-Valley, which is defended by a strong battery of great guns, 32 and 40 pounders, which are so planted as to sweep the surface of the water: As the waves are perpetually dashing on all sides of the island, which raise a very high surf, it is at all times difficult to land even there; as was our case the 28th *ultimo*, and which was the cause of the misfortune that happened to our long-boat.

Our ships lie before this place. In it there is a small town, consisting of about  
fifty





Pl. I. page 11



Fifty houses, a church, and the Governor's house, which all lie contiguous to the fort. The Governor has fine gardens, and pleasant walks, leading from his house to the fort.

There are two narrow creeks that people may land on, at a time when there is little surf, which is very rare; by these we can go to the top, or interior part of the island, tho' not without considerable danger and difficulty. These are likewise fortified with batteries of great guns.

Chapel-Valley, called by some James's Valley, where the large fort, town, and Governor's house are situated, is a small spot of level ground, lying betwixt two very high rocky hills, and, indeed, is of such a small compass, that it could not contain many more houses than are already built on it.

On the whole island, I am informed, there are about 150 families, all of English extraction.

There are commonly about 300 soldiers maintained here, in the company's service. They are bound to remain five years; their livery is red, faced with blue; and, it being a healthful climate, look as clean and

5 • • • well

well as any troops in Europe. There are also 300 slaves, brought from Guinea, Madagascar, and Bengal. The Governor retains a few of them for his own use, but they chiefly belong to the planters or farmers of the island. The slaves are clothed to the legs, but their feet bare. Those of the female sex, who are pretty agreeable, and all well shaped, are very familiar with our sailors.

All the people of the island speak English, dress after the English mode, and are generally of a tall slender shape, but somewhat tanned.

Every planter has his particular allotment of ground, with a house upon it. But, when ships arrive, they all come down from their several residences to Chapel-Valley; some to keep victualling-houses, others to merchandize, and all to make what profit they can of the strangers. This they look upon as their chief business, and the time of greatest merriment. All the young girls, and their black female slaves, now dress themselves as well as possible, in order to recommend themselves to the officers and seamen, from whom they always expect some presents of silk,

silk, fans, china, and the like. They are extremely easy, and good natured, and are always ready to join in all the amusements of the place with the officers, while the slaves, or black girls, are still more obliging with regard to the sailors. It is indeed a very odd scene sometimes to see the wanton behaviour of these last.

I had now the curiosity to go on shore: I first view'd the Governor's house, which was an irregular and indifferent piece of architecture, tho' the best in town. He has very pleasant walks well shaded, from which I had a full view of the fort and road. From thence I went thro' a pretty large parade, in which was the guard-house and prison, which led me up to the fort. I had the curiosity to step into the church, which was lined with wainscot, and looked pretty well within; but, without, it cut a poor figure, being meanly built of round rough stones and clay, and thatched with a kind of reed that grows in the island. From the ground I could touch the thatch with my hand; and tho' its dimensions were no larger than that of a country cottage in England, yet it was large enough to hold the  
• C whole

Whole people on the island. As we had brought a great quantity of Portland stones, large timber, and other materials for rebuilding or refitting the church and Governor's house, no doubt, by this time, both will make a better appearance.

I went next into the punch-house to take a refreshment, and there got an account of the island from a native, who had never seen any other country in his life. He told us, “ That, on the Portuguese discovering this island, they found it very barren, and without so much as a tree or bush to be seen on it; but as they thought it capable of improvement, and would be a convenient place for their shipping to water at, they stored it with hogs and goats; and that they afterwards visited it, and found the brood had increased.

“ In the course of some years, the Portuguese grew less fond of their possession, as they found it of a very barren soil, full of rocks, and very difficult to ascend to the country, and so small and remote, that their ships had often great difficulty to find it. So they left it.

“ On

“ On their deserting the island, the Eng-  
“ lish East India Company took possession  
“ in 1600, and held it till 1672, when the  
“ Dutch took it from us by surprise.  
“ About two years after, Captain Monday  
“ Monday, with the *Levant*, *Mary*, and  
“ *Martha* men of war, and the *Castle* fire-  
“ ship, going that way, and hearing that  
“ the Dutch had taken the island, recover-  
“ ed it again, and made prize of three  
“ Dutch Indiamen that lay in the road at  
“ that time. The Dutch had fortified the  
“ place now called *James*, or *Chapel-Val-*  
“ *ley*, which was always esteemed the  
“ only, tho’ a dangerous landing-place.  
“ Some of Captain Monday’s people, who  
“ had been in the place before, and ac-  
“ quainted with a small creek, landed a  
“ body of men on the other side of the  
“ island, without being discovered by the  
“ Dutch. They climbed the rocks with  
“ no small danger and difficulty, but with  
“ undaunted resolution. They made their  
“ appearance at the back of the fort, at  
“ the same time that the ships of war be-  
“ gan the attack; which so confounded  
“ the Dutch, that they threw down  
“ their arms, and surrendered the island

“ without striking a stroke. The com-  
 “ pany have since fortified this creek, so  
 “ that now there is no place where an  
 “ enemy can land with the least probability  
 “ of success.”

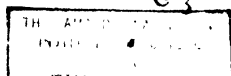
Three of us now resolved to take a turn to see the country. We had a very high and steep rocky hill to ascend, called Ladder-hill, from ladders being used to ascend it on its first discovery. It lies on the west side of the fort, and is cut in angles and turnings, to make the ascent easy; which has been a work of time and labour. When we arrived at the summit, we were all heartily fatigued, and almost out of breath, tho’ we had on but thin waistcoats. The ships in the road, at such a height, appeared as little in proportion to us, as we did to the people on board, who were often looking at us through perspectives.

• The poor slaves of both sexes are so inured to tread their ragged and steep roads, that they do it with ease; the soles of their feet are so much beat, that they are as hard as that of a shoe. A poor young female slave, about thirteen years of age, with a large bundle of linen upon her head, which  
 the

she was carrying to her master's house, came up with us, passed us, and got to the top long before us, without the least sign of fatigue or inconvenience. And, what is still more surprising, I have seen men ride up and down this steep on small, but very mettled horses, with great speed, and, to appearance, with great ease and safety. If they were not sure-footed, and fearless, it would be impossible for them to do so; for one false step to the side of the road, which is very narrow, would give them a fall from a precipice as high as the summit of St. Paul's.

At the top, we sat down to rest ourselves; and, as the evening was very fine and serene, we had an extensive prospect of the sea all around the island. As we proceeded, we found that we had several more hills to ascend. In the valleys, betwixt the hills, the planters' houses are situated, tolerably well built, with a garden and trees planted behind each of them, and generally near some small brook of fresh water.

I found a much better prospect than I expected; in some places pretty good grass, in others several thickets of trees, of various kinds. Among these we found a good many





many orange and lemon trees; we pulled some dozens of the fruit of the latter, to carry aboard for our use in making punch.

We saw several hogs, goats, cows, and small horses, belonging to the planters, besides others who were wild. Most of the planters were, at this juncture, down at their little city of Chapel-Valley, and had left the most trusty of their slaves to take care of their houses and cattle. The slaves never sleep under the same roof with their masters; but all lie promiscuously in a little place, like a stable, adjacent to their master's house. They have no beds, but straw spread on the ground. They beget children very fast, in which the sailors who come hither have a good hand; neither do the female slaves meet with any check from their masters, as they find it their interest to indulge them. They do all the laborious work; yet they are allowed no other food than the fish they can catch for themselves, and sometimes a little salted beef. The island in general is so barren, that the best in the place would fare but poorly, were it not for the great plenty of mackerel and other fish that abound on the coasts of this island.

The depth of mold on the island is about two feet, yet, for a long time, the inhabitants had no grain of their own growth but were annually supplied by a store-ship from England. Of late, by the assistance of some utensils in agriculture, and some experienced husbandmen, sent from England by the company, they are beginning to sow barley and other grains, and are in hopes to advance in the improvement and culture of their soil, so as to need less foreign supply.

They are very much infested with rats and mice, which does not a little obstruct their improvement of the ground. At the landing place, opposite the fort, they were so numerous, that our cooper, whom we had put on shore to fit up our water-casks, could not get sleep in his tent, nor a bit of victuals preserved for them. The inhabitants told me, that these vermine eat the seed after it is sown in the ground.

Few people in the island eat any bread, except the Governor, who is supplied from England; but, instead thereof, they eat a kind of root, called Yame, which grows about the planters houses like our potatoes, nor are they unlike them in taste, tho' not so agreeable.

As we proceeded, we found the island beautifully diversified with hills and plains; but our roads on the sides of the hills were ragged and dangerous. We arrived, at last, at one of the pleafantest spots on the whole island, called the Long-Wood, where the Governor has a summer-house. The ground there is covered with trees, which are low and small, and very pleafant. The extent of this spot is not above two miles long, and one broad. The only game here is pheafants, wood-cocks, and partridges. This place is fometimes the recess of the Governor, and gentlemen that may happen to be with him. Here the company keep a flock of fome hundreds of black cattle, for the use of their ships that touch at the island, with flocks of hogs, goats, turkey, geese, hens, and other poultry. The bullocks are small, but sweet and tender, resembling those of the Highlands of Scotland. This wood is about four miles from Chapel-Valley, and the pleafantest and most fruitful part of the island. Here we found apple, pear, peach, apricock, and water-melon trees, and several garden-roots common with us in Europe. Besides these, several peculiar to hot countries are in this spot,

spot, such as the plantain, bannanoe, banyan, and other Indian trees. Yet all these things are exotics, which contribute little to the support of life; for, as I observed before, the inhabitants would sometimes starve, had not heaven brought plenty of fish about the island, which they have for the taking; such as, mackrel, bonnetoes, cavallees, conger eels, old wives, guard-fish, albicores, crab-fish, lobsters, foldiers, rock-fish, land-fish, stone-bass, fun-fish, sucking-fish, pilot-fish, hog-fish, with plenty of sharks, and others not proper for food.

On and about the rocks of the island, there are great numbers of fowl, every way resembling pigeons, except their web-feet, which shew that they are of the sea-fowl kind. They always fly to the windward, and are sometimes seen at a considerable distance from the land, which is a sure sign to our ships of their approach to the island. Here are also albitrosses, called men of war birds, tropic birds, bobies, noddies, bramani kites, and other sea-fowl about the rocks.

Tho' the vines flourish very well on this island, and produce plenty of grapes, yet  
the

26     *An ACCOUNT of ST. HELENA.*

the climate is too hot for making wine; for neither too hot or too cold countries agree with this liquor. Their wines are imported from Europe.

The water here is very good; but, after rain, is very brackish, occasioned by the fresh streams running over the rocks, which wash off the salt, and make it taste like sea-water. I have seen the bottom of a cask, after standing some time, covered with solid pieces of salt. The better sort of people take care to furnish themselves with fresh water from the most rugged rocks, which contain the best springs, when they think rain approaching.

As we were travelling, each with a bundle of biscuit and cheese, among the rocks, we met an old slave, who looked like a skeleton. He told us, that he was 80 years old, had been several times in England with the Company's ships, and was born in Bengal. He added, that he was going to the other side of the island, on an errand from the fort, and was to return in a day or two; and that he had only a few yams and lemons, which were in a bag hung over his shoulder, for his subsistence. We all contributed to fill his bag with better store,

store, which gave him no small joy, and, returning a thousand thanks for our liberality, he went forward with surprising alacrity.

We soon reached a planter's house, where we resided three days; during which we were employed in surveying the broken and ghastly figure of the rocks and their summits. If I had not before read or heard of the general convulsion of the earth at the deluge, I could not have helped saying to myself, on the sight of this island, that, as the globe of this earth, when it received its original form from the hand of the Creator, must have been of a more smooth, perfect, and regular structure, there must, undoubtedly, some great confusion and disorder have happened to it; since here was an island, or rather a very large, irregular, and tremendous rock, cast by itself, and separated at such a distance from the continent of Africa, or any other part of the earth.

Notwithstanding the general poverty of the island, yet they live very happy. I was told that some planters here are so rich, as to give 200 l. dowry with a daughter. They live in perfect security, neither in danger

danger of enemies nor robbers, wild beasts, nor rigorous seasons, and, for the most part, are in a continual state of health. Their walls are the highest rocks, and their moat the ocean. As they are here detached from all the rest of the world, dwelling in uninterrupted quiet; enjoying a serene sky; steady and moderate breezes; surrounded with herds of cattle; shady trees of various kinds; abundance of flying and swimming animals; and, above all, with the convincing marks of the general catastrophe of the flood: these circumstances considered, this place would certainly be a fine retirement, and give large opportunity to a philosophic mind, in observing and contemplating the works of nature.

A sort of tobacco grows here, but comes to little or no perfection, and is only used by the slaves.

In the planter's house, each of us paid a dollar a-day for bed and victuals, besides furnishing our own drink. Tho' we paid so dear, our table was but meanly covered; instead of bread to our tea in the morning, we had a yam cut in thin slices, and toasted.

A school-master is settled here by the company, for teaching the inhabitants to read and write English, and common arithmetic. Their proficiency in either is inconsiderable, and their ideas and knowledge extremely confined.

For the greater security of the island, there are watch-towers placed on the greatest eminences all around the island; where the centinels give signals from one to another, till they reach the fort, on the approach of any shipping: and, if there is any apprehension of danger, all the inhabitants are alarmed, and immediately take arms, under the command of the Company's Governor. The slaves, on this occasion, are not allowed fire-arms, but iron crow's, with which they loose the small rocks on the summit, and, in case of an attack, could do great execution.

The inhabitants give great prices for European commodities, especially such as are necessary for the support of life. The Governor keeps a store-house of these, and, if well supplied, sells them out reasonably. I have seen cheese sold here at 9 d. or 1 s. per pound.



30      *An ACCOUNT of ST. HELENA.*

The commodities proper for this market are,

Cheese,	Cheap new Wigs,
Butter,	Buckles,
Ale,	Buttons,
Beer,	Silk shoes for women,
All sorts of Spirits,	Stays for ditto,
Thread,	Stockings,
Needles,	Shoes,
Ribbons,	Old Ha's, laced or
Pins,	plain,
Old Wigs,	New ditto, about 6
	or 6 s. prime cost.

14028

Tho' the inhabitants enjoy all the tranquillity and health above described, are very few in number, and lie at such distance from all other parts of the world, yet there is perhaps no place, in proportion to its extent, that furnishes more instances of pride, contention, and division, than here. Not indeed about religious points, for they are all uniformly united in the principles of the church of England; but about their civil interests and rights. While we were here, the Governor was much beloved by the soldiers, and as much hated by the planters. An officer under him, and who

owed

owed his fortune to the Governor, was so ungenerous as to avail himself of the discontent; he transmitted a complaint from the planters to the Company, laying out their pretended grievances: soon after the Governor was recalled, and this officer appointed to succeed him, who is as much hated by the soldiers, as the other was beloved.

Through the indiscretion of a young officer lately here, there happened a melancholy affair in the family of one of the most reputable planters in the island. The planter married a young and agreeable woman of the same place, who probably had been better fed than taught; for the young officer, soon after, commenced a criminal correspondence with the young wife, and communicated to her the Gallic pox. The husband was soon affected, perhaps before the unhappy woman knew what was the matter with herself; but he, having never heard of the disease, was credulous enough to impute it to an overstrain, or some such cause, but never in the least suspected his wife. The guilty persons went both to the surgeon of the island, and were soon cured. The poor planter went likewise, but was shifted off  
with

with a trifling answer. He, some time after, discovered his complaints to a surgeon of a ship that had lately arrived, who, on examination, told him that he was severely p<sup>o</sup>xed. The planter, conscious that he had had dealings with no other female but his wife, naturally became jealous; but prudently enough said little, till one day, while he was on the watch, he caught the adulterers in the very act, which confirmed his suspicion by a convincing proof. The offender made his escape to the fort, and, hearing that the planter threatened to take his life, he took the first opportunity of going passenger for England. Doubtless the planter, if he continued to live with his wife, must nevertheless be unhappy. Such are the exploits of some of our raw military striplings!

No less to the shame and reproach of the clergy, another instance of the same kind happened when I was there. A clergyman, lately sent over from England to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of the former incumbent, to the scandal of his profession, shewed himself a very dissolute young fellow. The first thing he did, and perhaps before he had made one sermon, was to  
debauch

debauch an agreeable young lady, the daughter of one of the principal men of the island. His intimacy with her was discovered entirely by his own indiscretion. Her father was alarmed, and swore revenge; and the offender was obliged to sculk about for fear of him. At last, thro' the interposition of some friends, the father consented to pass from the injury, on condition the parson should marry his daughter, the only way left to atone for his crime, and to retrieve the young lady's honour. But this he absolutely refused. When we left the island, they were at great variance; and, undoubtedly, the parson will be obliged either to accept the offer, or return to England, to avoid a greater punishment. Such are the pious works of some of our young spiritual pastors!

This being the first place where I had ever had access to see the slavery of our fellow creatures, I could not help bewailing their hard fortune, and being sensibly touched at the sight of their misery. My heart silently pleaded in their behalf, and pitied their masters insensibility, and sometimes cruelty, at the same time that I condemned them. Nothing ever gave me a  
D better

better lesson of the misery and weakness of mankind. What is more cruel, barbarous, unchristian, and shocking to nature, than to see one half of mankind torturing the other; or that the different tincture of the skin, or simplicity of manners, should induce us to exercise the greatest cruelty towards them. To make a property of condemned malefactors, is, I believe, common to the laws of God and man; but with what shew of justice can we make slaves of a people of another free country, and even of little children, who have done nothing to provoke us? Were they not, were not all mankind originally born to liberty? Have they not the same pretensions to the favour of the Deity, and to life and immortality? Custom may make such practices common, but will never make them lawful.

I was told, as an apology for the hardships they put the slaves to, that they had sometimes made attempts for liberty, the love of which is implanted in our very natures, having frequently run away with the boats, with a small store of water, yams, and some other necessaries they had stolen from their masters. But, as they were at such a  
vast

vast distance from any other land, and ignorant of navigation, they returned back to their bondage, after having spent their strength and provisions in vain. As they do not work on Sundays, they used to come on board us, in order to barter fish, lemons, &c. for biscuit, salt-beef and pork.

It may naturally be supposed, that the notions of such of the inhabitants as were never off the island must be very confined; nor can their politeness, copied chiefly from indifferent models, the sea-faring people, be very extraordinary. Their simplicity may be easily conceived from the following specimen of polite conversation. Some gentlemen, belonging to one of our ships, being in company with several ladies of the best fashion, one of the gentlemen was speaking of the splendor of Vauxhall, and Ranelagh gardens, and of the great crowds of fine company that assembled there; on which a lady, accounted a wit in St. Helena, replied, "O, I suppose, all this is when the shipping are there, and the place full of company." This same lady is no less learned in the ancients, than in the history of modern times.—There were few authors,  
D 2 even

even the most abstruse, but she had studied. In short, she lately favoured the world with an important discovery, which is sufficient to demonstrate the force of her superior genius, “ That the reason why “ Homer called one of his books the *Iljads*, “ or, which is the same thing, his eye-lids, “ was because he was blind.”

But I must do the female sex the justice to say, that they have a greater flow of spirit, and thirst after knowledge, than the generality of the men & some of them even travel to gratify their curiosity. I have seen them in most parts of India; and it is to their laudable efforts that the Company are obliged for the increase of their white subjects in those parts. It is a pleasure to see with what complaisance they receive a stranger. Clapping their hands together, and making a low courtesy, is the manner of welcoming him.

Their houses are pretty clean. They always speak of England as their home, and most of them that I have spoke with expressed a strong inclination to see it. But the ties of friendship, and the expence of the voyage, prevail with them to remain, even after resolving on the voyage:  
so

so that few of them have ever been in their parent country.

The climate is very wholesome, and the constant sea-breezes render the heat very tolerable. We left a man \* of our company in a deep consumption to recover his health.

I went once or twice a shooting in the Longwood. We got some very plump small game-birds. There is plenty of sport. But you may kill numbers, and bring off few; for they often fall into rocks and caverns, where it would be madness to follow them.

There is no regular tide at this island, but a rising and falling of the water about two or three feet. At the east side of the fort, not far from the draw-bridge, there is a landing-place, with steps to go up. But I would prefer the landing-place called the Cove, a little further east, both because the surf is less, and because you can land here with less difficulty. The landing-place at the fort has a crane for loading and unloading boats, with a rock sunk under it, which makes it very dangerous.

\* John Gray musician. We since received an account that he died about a month after.

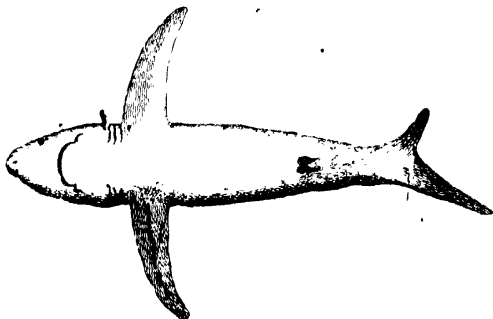


This is the place where our long-boat was stove, and all the people washed out, on the 28th of December last.

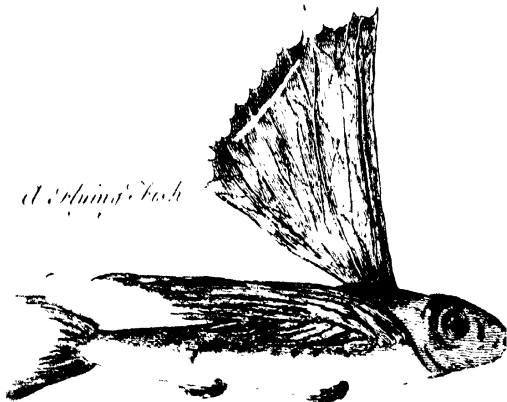
The inhabitants told me, that they never have any thunder or lightning ; nor have any of them ever been seized with the small-pox, tho' the Europeans that touch there often brought the disease with them. It has been remarked, however, that when the inhabitants are transported to another climate, they are more liable to that disease than any other people, and suffer more by it. • Having remained here twenty days, and having delivered our stores, taken in fresh provisions, and refreshed ourselves, we were now ready to sail.

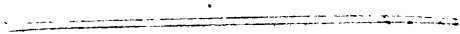


*1. Shark with the Belly up.*



*2. Flying Fish*





A

V O Y A G E

F R O M

ST. HELENA to JAVÂ.

ON Wednesday the 14th of January 1747, at five in the evening, our Captain and supercargoes came on board. They were saluted with nine guns by our ship and the fort ; we weighed anchor at seven, and, on our leaving the island, we saluted the fort with nine guns, which returned the same number. We had variable winds, but an invariable heat, with great lightnings in the night. We were close followed by shoals of sharks, flying-fish, and dolphins, which many of

our seamen looked upon as an omen that our ships crew would be soon sickly.

On the 23d we found ourselves in lat.  $25^{\circ}$ ,  $37'$ , and that the variation of the compass was  $6^{\circ}$ ,  $12'$  W. About this time we felt the weather cool and damp, and continued so till the fifth of February, when we had a brisk, but dry gale of wind, with a large swell from the S. W. With this wind we sailed at the rate of ten miles an hour.

On the sixth and seventh, the wind decreased, and the heat returned. We thought ourselves near the Cape of Good-Hope; but, after sounding 130 fathom, we found no ground. At noon, our latitude was  $36^{\circ}$ ,  $42'$ ; the variation was  $17^{\circ}$ ,  $24'$  W.

We frequently saw very large grampuses, in appearance like the hull of a vessel of thirty or forty tons. The weather continued very thick and hazy from the thirteenth to the seventeenth, when we had very hard rains, and sudden squalls of wind.

On the twentieth it blew very hard, with great rains and lightning. One of our men fell from the main-yard into the sea ;

but

but the wind was so violent that we could not bring her to, without running the risk of carrying away all our masts, and the poor wretch was suffered to perish in the ocean. This accident was imputed to his being in liquor.

On the twenty-first the violence of the weather abated, and, on the twenty-second, was clear, and inclining to a calm, when incredible numbers of birds, called Albitrosses, were flying about us. We began to wish for some fresh victuals, by taking some of these fowls. For which purpose, as well as for amusement, we provided ourselves with strong fishing-lines; to which, at proper distances, we tied chips of wood, to prevent the lines from sinking. We baited our hooks with pieces of pork and beef. On letting out the lines a little way astern of the ship, the birds darted down upon the baits and swallowed them. By giving the line a sudden pull, the hooks fastened, and we pulled them into the ship with ease; but when we happened not to haul them in with alacrity, they bit the line thro', and got off: and sometimes others of the flock, that were not intangled, would fly before, and bite the line, that the intangled bird might escape.

*scape.* One of them, measured from tip of both wings extended, ten feet. They have a joint more in the wing than any other fowl I ever saw. They have a curious bill; and a large web foot, as broad as a man's hand. They are lofty and strong; have a skin as thick as that of a sheep, and are covered with a fine goose-coloured feather as soft as down. Not satisfied with admiring their beauty, we killed, skinned, and boiled several of them. The broth was very good, but when we baked them, they tasted pretty strongly of fish; yet we preferred them to salt provisions. Ten of us supped on one, and were well satisfied.

On the second of March the wind began to increase. We reefed our top-sails, handed our foretop-sail and main-sail. The decks were always wet with the sea. Rains and lightning were now very common, and gave us little disturbance.

On the fourth we had a great swell, the ship pitched very deep, and split our sprit-sail. We were now in lat.  $36^{\circ}$ ,  $57'$  and variation  $26^{\circ}$ ,  $1'$  W.

On the fifth the swell abated, and the weather pretty fair and clear. Till the fifteenth nothing material happened, when,  
at

at mid-night, we made the island of St. Paul's, bearing S. E. from us. At four in the morning, the body of it bore S. S. E. about five miles distant: at which time, being our nearest distance, I took the following sketch of it.



The sight of this island did not long detain us. We were glad of having seen it; for we wanted to correct our longitude, and to take a fresh departure, as we had suspected a current ever since we passed to the eastward of the Cape of Good-Hope. According to the best charts and journals we had, it lies about  $74^{\circ}$ , E. from the meridian of London, in the latitude of  $37^{\circ}$ ,  $50'$  S. The weather being hazy, we had no opportunity of taking an observation. We did not see the island of Amsterdam, tho' it is not far distant. The island of St. Paul's, which lies mid-way between the Cape and New Holland, seems larger than St. Helena, has better ground upon it, at least is more verdant. It is surrounded with high and steep rocks; yet is said to be des-  
titute



stitute of fresh water, and consequently of inhabitants. When I looked attentively upon this uninhabited and remote parcel of earth, I was struck with a secret pleasure and awe, which I cannot easily express. It called to mind the infinite variety of the works of the Creator, that lie hid from the knowledge of the human kind.

After we lost sight of this island, without attempting to go ashore, we had variable winds: a great swell followed us; and damps fell in the night, which made our deck appear in the morning as if it had rained.

On the twenty-seventh, we cleaned our ship, righted our pinnace and long-boat; and, on the twenty-eight, we descried a very large vessel bearing N. N. E. about four leagues distant. Not knowing but that it might be a French man of war, we cleared the deck and steerage, and made ready for a stout defence. But we were well enough pleased to see her almost out of our view, a-stern of us, next morning.

On the second of April, we had rain, lightning, and terrible thunder. This, joined to the excessive heat of the climate, put us into

a melancholy situation. We observed large drifts of trees, and a turtle, on the surface; which were sure indications that we were not far from land.

On the third we bent our 'cables,' and made ready our long-boat.

On the fourth we had fair weather; and, on Sunday the fifth, the man posted on the mast-head called down that he saw land. About half an hour after, we all saw it bearing E. N. E. at the distance of seven leagues. As we had been eleven weeks at sea since we left St. Helena, and our water stinking, we rejoiced at the prospect of getting fresh provisions.

By the bye, I cannot help observing, that the water we brought from the Thames, after it had corrupted and stood some time, again refined, and grew sweet: a property that no other water we had on board possessed but itself. I happened to touch the bung-hole of a cask of the Thames water that had thus refined, and it immediately took fire and burnt like spirits.

On the evening of the fifth, the body of Prince's island bore E. by N. at the distance of five or six leagues, and the east point of  
Java

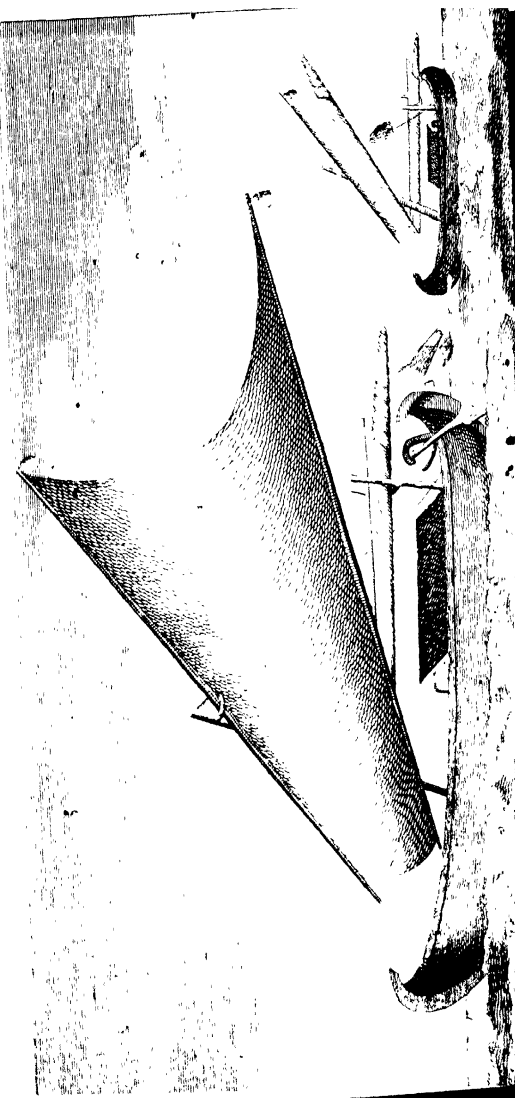
Java bore E. and on the sixth, at sun-set, we were within two or three miles of the Javan shore.

On the seventh, it was fair and sultry hot. In the night, after a violent rain, the sultry heat instantly changed to chilling cold. Our people wore only a shirt, trousers, and shoes; which made these sudden changes more intolerable.

The frequent calms we met with in the straits of Sunda, rendered our navigation very tedious, being obliged to come to anchor and weigh again every two or three hours. At seven in the morning we sent the pinnace on shore, on discovery. At noon she returned with a bottle, which they found hanging on the branch of a conspicuous tree, at the watering-place of Java head. The bottle contained letters, giving an account that Madrats was taken from us by the French. This custom of conveying intelligence by letters inclosed and sealed up in bottles, and tied to the branches of conspicuous trees, at the places of the islands where the Europeans usually take in fresh water, is so common, that every ship that touches at those parts, looks for and expects it.

At



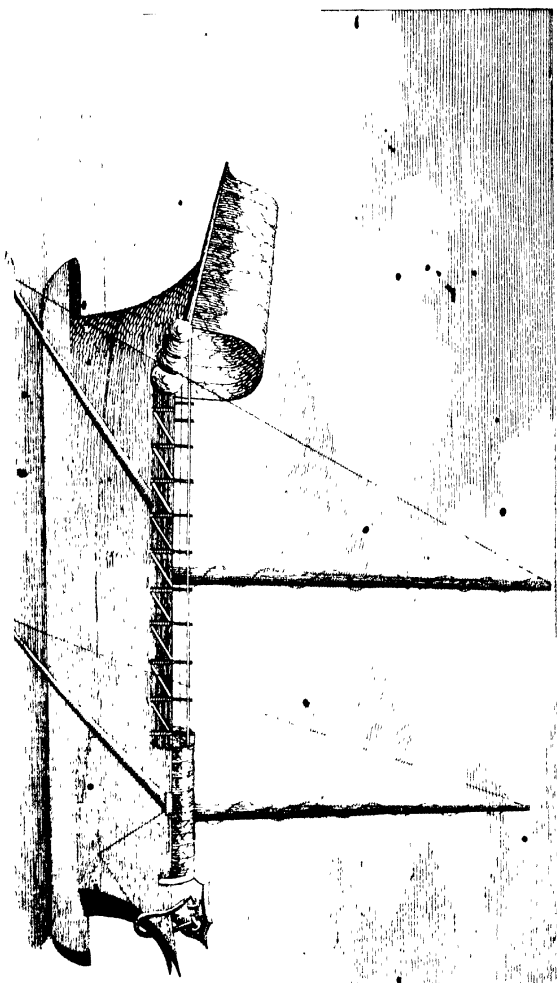


At three this evening, there came a prow from Prince's Island, with five Malaymen, aboard of us. They were loaded with turtle, cocoa-nuts, plantanes, fowls, &c. which we bought from them. They were quite naked to the belly, which was covered with a piece of striped cotton. An old man who steered the prow, and who seemed superior to the rest, wore a calico gown, called a Banyan.

They were very happy with the sight of the English horse, which was about three times larger than any of their breed. They asked, and were permitted to have a sight of the cabin; but with instructions to those who attended them, to take care they stole nothing; for they are dexterous thieves, using their toes for that purpose as nimbly as their fingers. I observed that, contrary to my own expectation, and to the opinion we entertain of them in England, they know the value of money very well. They asked more than double the value of their commodities, and what they really took for them.

The prows are built very sharp at both stem and stern, and considerably widened in the middle. They have a grate, made  
of

of the flices of bamboo-tree, drawn over the hold. As this grate, or covering, is tied with cord to each side of the prow, they can walk up and down, without hurting their commodities below, and can most expeditiously uncover them when they want to come at any particular kind of goods. These prows are sometimes covered aloft, in the form of an arched roof, with flices of the bamboo-tree fastened and covered with the cajan-leaves. In some prows this arch is so high, that the Malay people can stand upright under them. They have a matt-sail and one mast, by which they lie very near the wind, and sail at a very great rate, sometimes not less than eighteen miles an hour. In the prow that came on board of us, we saw them making use of rice, pine-apples, and bananoes. The rice they eat very hot. They kept their water in a jar at the stern of the prow, covered with their grated deck, which they kept surprisingly cool, considering that there was such an intense heat, that we could not walk the deck without scorching our feet, and burning the soles of our shoes. Yea, tho' our deck was every now and then watered,



Pl. II. p.





I have seen the planks so shrunk and dried by the sun, that I could have put the side of my hand into the gapes.

The people in this part use the milk of the cocoa-nut more than water for common drink. It is clear, sweet, and agreeable, at the same time extremely cool. Besides, there is, in the inside of the shell, a small crust, of about half an inch thick, and in taste like the kernel of our small British nuts. So that this cocoa-nut serves often both for meat and drink. And the rind of it is so tough, that they make ropes of it.

As some of our people could speak a little in the Malayan language, we asked them with whom they traded? They told us, they came aboard of all ships with goods and provisions, except those under Dutch colours, for that the Dutch had used them, on many occasions, so cruelly, after pillaging them of all their goods, that they had resolved not to come near them for the future.

On the 8th of April, we weighed anchor; but the wind being small, and variable, we had laborious work. By this time we were so accustomed to the terrible claps

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of thunde; usual in these parts, that our seamen used to call them the King of Bantam's great guns. We had this day a large turtle dressed for dinner to our whole ship's company, being an hundred men. It is most delicious food, and very nourishing. It makes the finest soup or broth, and has all the virtues commonly ascribed to jellies, eggs, viper-broth, &c. In this sea animal one part resembles fowl, another flesh, and another fish, in colour and taste.

On the ninth, we were becalmed, and sent our yawl, well armed, ashore at Bantam, to get intelligence.

On the tenth, we were within a league of Javan shore, and, though much vexed with tacking and anchoring every now and then, we were agreeably entertained with the fine green prospect. Through our glasses we could see the clusters of various fruits hanging upon the trees, the country interspersed with groves and rivulets, and a variety of curious birds flying about us, using their different notes or cries. At eleven o'clock we met with a Dutch ship from Batavia, for Persia, who informed us, that the Dragon, Captain Kent, was  
in

in Batavia road, and confirmed the report that Madrafs was taken by the French. This day several Javanese prows and canoes came aboard, with monkeys, marmosettes, paroquets, turtle, fowls, and several kinds of fruits. They seldom went from us deep loaded. We distributed fruit liberally to our people that were troubled with the scurvy; and sent our long-boat ashore, along with two Malays, to get buffaloes, greens, and other fresh provision, who told us they durst not bring us them, as the Dutch guarda-costa's were stationed there to prevent any ships getting fresh provisions but their own.

On the eleventh, our long-boat returned with the two Malay men, and four large buffaloes, which a Dutch guarda-costa observing, sent a boat to catch them. The Malays received a signal, and made off in their canoe to the shore, without being taken. As we had given them half the price of the buffaloes in hand, by this accident we saved the other half, which will now never be paid.

The buffaloes resemble our oxen, but are larger, and more clumsy; they have very little hair upon them. When they

are caught in the woods, cloths are tied about their eyes, to get them aboard.

This night we had much thunder and lightning, and, being near the Javan shore, heard a terrible noise of wild beasts, who inhabit the overgrown woods of the island.

The houses in Java are raised upon pillars eight or ten feet high, to which they ascend by a ladder, which is hauled up in the night. They are built and possessed in this manner, both to avoid the ill effects of the nightly damps, and to prevent an assault by wild beasts. The inhabitants were very hospitable to our people when on shore, setting rice, fruits, and other cheer before them.

On Sunday the twelfth of April, we had some fresh breezes of wind, which comforted us not a little in the extreme heat; but, next day, the wind fell, and was succeeded by the most stifling heat, accompanied with terrible thunder and lightning, and heavy rains, beyond all possible description.

On the fourteenth we weighed anchor, the wind being at S. S. W. and, on the nineteenth, came to an anchor in Bata-  
via

via road, having taken fourteen days to pass through the straits of Sunda. The island Onroest, or No-rest, bore from us N. W. by N. the island of Edam N. N. E. and the cupola of Batavia church S. by E. Distant off shore two miles.

We found nine Dutch ships, several Chinese Jonks, and the company's ship *Dragon*, from Borneo, all at anchor in this road. We saluted the Dutch commodore, and the *Dragon*, who returned our compliment. Here we had information that a squadron of French men of war were lying off Telicherry; and that the captain of the Company's ship *Onslow* had been put in irons by the Sultan of Benjar, till he should deliver up an Indian Prince and all his treasure to the Dutch, who had fled to Captain Congreve for protection. This moving relation shall be given by and bye,

Our voyage to Benjar being now, for certain reasons, put off, the fine stone horse, formerly mentioned, was sent ashore at this place, as a present to the governor-general of Batavia, Baron Imhoff, and likewise a coach which we brought from London.

In this road we observed several alligators, which come from the rivers of Java, swimming round the vessels.

From the twenty-sixth of April to the eighteenth of May, we did little else than take in provisions.

On the nineteenth of May, the day when the cities of Bantam and Batavia were surrendered to the Dutch, they had great rejoicings. The cannon of the castle and other forts were fired, and answered by the Dutch admiral in the road. The English officers were invited to an evening entertainment in the Governor's house, which they most prudently excused themselves from accepting \*. As we had no reason to join with them, we were only spectators of their mirth.

From this to the fourth of June nothing remarkable occurred. We had this day advice of six English ships being detained at the Cape by two French men of war. And now we began to prepare for sailing.

On the ninth we weighed, and, at noon, came to anchor in the stream in six fathom water, the wind N. E. We

\* Remember Bantam and Amboyna.

set sail on the tenth, and passed between the islands of Horn and Edam.

Being now in the straits of Banca, we found it a dangerous navigation, being all very narrow, and of very different depths. We indeed got a Dutch chart of these straits, who frequent them most; but even that, though they told us it was drawn by the best Dutch pilots at Batavia, was found very erroneous in many places, whether owing to inaccurate observations, or the sands shifting their place, I cannot determine.



A N  
 ACCOUNT  
 OF THE  
 ISLAND OF JAVA.

**J**AVA is one of the Sunda islands, and extends from  $5^{\circ}, 3'$  to  $8^{\circ}$ , S. latitude, being in length about 700 miles, and, in some places, 150 in breadth.

The natives, the original masters of this island, are Malays, part of a numerous people in the East Indies so called. They are of a moderate stature, black, though not so deep as the natives of Guinea; they are well shaped, and their hair, as of all other Indians, of a shining black, and very long. They are generally found to be proud, treacherous, and much given to lying. The men go naked to the middle, which is covered with a piece of callico, or cotton, reaching nigh to their  
 I '                      knee.

knee. Some of the women go in the same manner ; but those about the towns and coast, wear a waistcoat of white cotton, with strait sleeves, and laced before, which, flowing at the breast, shew their neck to advantage. They wrap a piece of stamped cotton, or calico, about their middle, resembling a handkerchief, which serves for a petticoat. As the waistcoat does not reach quite down to this thin petticoat, there appears a list of tawny skin all round their middle.

Both sexes have generally good features, and, contrary to what we commonly observe of the Blacks amongst us in England, who are all brought from Guinea, they have no flat noses, thick lips, nor woolly heads, but have as great a variety of features as any people in the world. They marry very young, especially the females, who are ripe to have children at twelve years of age, and are generally past child-bearing at the age of thirty.

The Javan women are exceeding amorous, and have a peculiar excellency which many of our European ladies cannot boast, namely, constancy to their lovers. But, indeed, they expect that the men should  
be

be no less faithful in their turn; for, if the female find any reason to suspect her gallant of infidelity, a potion, or some other such means, are found to put an end to all future intercourse.

They have fine regular features, little swelling breasts, sprightly eyes, shining black hair, and very long, sometimes hanging negligently down their backs, but oftner neatly wreathed round their heads; they have a pleasing softness in their manner, with a most agreeable smile or laugh. So that, though they are tawny, they might pass even in Europe for handsome. They are all very cleanly, bathing every evening and morning, and particularly after any kind of evacuation. This they do in obedience to Mahomet, whom they follow. They have commonly a strong smell, occasioned by rubbing their skin with oil, which not only preserves them from being burnt with scorching heat, but renders their skin soft and smooth.

The men, by their law, are allowed two or three wives, and the married women, though they enjoy full liberty, pay a profound respect to their husbands.

This island is exceeding hot, and, in some parts, very unwholesome, especially  
about

about the bays and shores, where the lands are level: for, after a flood, and the retiring of the waters, the whole surface is covered with ouze and mud; and the rays of the sun falling perpendicularly, raises a very thick vapour; besides, the insupportable stench of a multitude of frogs and insects that the waters leave behind, and which are soon killed by the heat of the sun, corrupts the air itself for some time. Farther up the country, there are vast numbers of trees and herbs, that have not perhaps been touched by the hand of man since the beginning of time, which produce great vapours, and renders the air unhealthful. Near the towns the woods are mostly cut down, and consequently the air is somewhat better. Indeed, were it not for the sea-breezes, which never fail to come every twelve hours, there would be no living on this island at all; for, when the sea-breeze ceases, and the land breeze succeeds, the place is more hot and stifling than a glass-house in Britain.

The evenings and mornings are pleasantest, though even then very warm; these too are the only hours of business or diversion, and, indeed, it may be said they constitute the

the day, in this and all other places under the Torrid Zone.

The people of this island divide the year into the wet and the dry seasons, instead of Summer and Winter as with us. The winds in this part of the world blow the one half of the year one way, and the other half another, with very little variation. When these winds change, they call it the breaking up of the Moonsons, at which time there are prodigious storms of wind and rain that we have no example of in Europe. The westerly moonson continues from September to April, which is the wet season, having almost continual and heavy rains during that period.

This island is exceeding fertile, but uncultivated. Plenty of all sorts of Indian fruits grow here spontaneously; and no less plenty of buffaloes, cows, small horses, deer, hogs, and all sorts of poultry, are to be found, without any other owner than he who takes them. The trading towns employ people to take them, and sell them out to any purchaser that comes.

In this island, some of the inhabitants are descended from Europeans, and retain the customs of their ancestors.

Besides

Besides the common Indian trees and roots, they have planted many of our European trees and pot-herbs.

Here we found monkeys of various species, parrots, paroquets, and squirrels, with membranes resembling wings, with which they fly from tree to tree.

There are incredible numbers of curious and beautiful flies and insects, which, if the annual rain happens ever to fail, entirely destroy the fruits of the earth.

About the rivers and marshes are found numbers of serpents, crocodiles, or alligators, some of them of a prodigious size. We sometimes fired shot at them, when they came near us. I have seen them near thirty feet long. They lie commonly at the side of rivers, among bushes, when they watch their prey. They ly so close, that they appear, in colour and size, like a large trunk of a tree; so that a stranger is in great danger of becoming a prey to this voracious animal. He may be surprised and destroyed the same instant.

There is an animal here, which I had the curiosity to view very attentively. It resembled the human form much more than any creature I had ever seen. It was young, had a melancholy look, the face  
almost

almost quite bare, but the head, eye-brows, and lower part of the chin very rough. It made little noise, shewed great fondness, in grasping me around and squeezing me ; and sometimes made a low pensive sound, as if whining and crying. It walked upright with great ease, and was about three feet and a half high. It had no tail, and was very often found in the woods. Some people, not considering in the scale of being what an almost imperceptible gradation is constantly observed between one species of animals and that which is next to it, and struck with the near resemblance of this creature to the human kind, both in form and sagacity, have accounted for its production in the following manner : That the cruelty of the Dutch to their Malayan female slaves, often obliged them to fly into the woods to escape the cruelty of their tyrannical masters ; and, being forced to live there solitarily, it was thought that they might, by length of time, turn mad, or insensibly brutish, and might have yielded to an unnatural commerce with some animals in the woods, by which this strange animal I have been speaking of was produced.

The Malayan language is spoken by the natives of this island in a variety of dialects,

lects, and is easily acquired, perhaps easier than any foreign living language in the world. I know several Englishmen, who, in six months residence among them, have been capable to transact any business with them, and to speak it tolerably well. It is soft and pleasant to the ear.

A specimen of the Malayan language follows, which may be useful to people who have occasion to touch at any of the ports in this part of India.

An Almond,	<i>Sawzan.</i>
Almost all,	<i>Ampir samoa.</i>
I am here,	<i>Ad da, la de fini.</i>
A horse,	<i>Cooda.</i>
An anchor,	<i>Sao.</i>
To anchor,	<i>Sabo saoo balo.</i>
To anchor in a port,	<i>Sangar.</i>
An anchoring place,	<i>La beawn.</i>
Another,	<i>Lian.</i>
Not that, another,	<i>Lain derre pado.</i>
A letter,	<i>Balas soorat.</i>
Any one,	<i>Barange siappo.</i>
An Ape,	<i>Moniet.</i>
Even as, or like as,	<i>Buggemena.</i>
Like this, this manner	<i>Buggene.</i>
Even so, or so,	<i>Buggeetoo.</i>
So much,	<i>Banyak.</i>
So great,	<i>Bajaer.</i>

Bad,



64 *A Specimen of the MALAY Language.*

Bad,	<i>Jatrat.</i>
A bag,	<i>Caroon.</i>
A basket,	<i>Cranjong.</i>
Batavia,	<i>Jackatra.</i>
A bay,	<i>Telooc.</i>
To be not,	<i>Jangon.</i>
A bear,	<i>Browang.</i>
A bee,	<i>Mad-dea.</i>
Beef,	<i>Sappee, sappac.</i>
Beetle nut,	<i>Penang.</i>
Bezoar,	<i>Golega.</i>
Big with young,	<i>Branting.</i>
A bird,	<i>Beeroong.</i>
A tiger,	<i>Makan bwias.</i>
Blue,	<i>Biroo.</i>
A blustering wind,	<i>Angin reboot.</i>
A boar,	<i>Bobbee jantan.</i>
To go aboard a ship,	<i>Naick kapal.</i>
To come from a ship,	<i>Tooroon derre, pada kapal.</i>
A boatswain,	<i>Jure ba sao.</i>
A book,	<i>Kitab.</i>
A weight for gold,	<i>Boncal,</i>
1 oz. 8 dr. 12 gr. troy.	
A man did go,	<i>Sa oran foda pegee.</i>
To tarry,	<i>Nantee.</i>
To reckon;	<i>Belang.</i>
To forgive,	<i>Makone.</i>

Addled

*A Specimen of the MALAY Language.* 65

Addled as an egg,	<i>Boo sooc.</i>
To be so or so,	<i>Buggetoo.</i>
A merchant,	<i>Soodagar.</i>
An enemy,	<i>Satroo.</i>
Ask advice,	<i>Minta jamat.</i>
Afternoon,	<i>Lepas tenga arree.</i>
One after another,	<i>Massing, massing.</i>
Bring again,	<i>Combalecan.</i>
Come again,	<i>Combalela.</i>
What age is he,	<i>Brapa Oomor.</i>
A day,	<i>Lepas.</i>
A gun,	<i>Buddeel.</i>
Alive,	<i>Edap.</i>
All alike,	<i>Sama jooga.</i>
All come,	<i>Towas pootee.</i>
A boatswain,	<i>Pade capal, Jure babao.</i>
A bucket to draw wa-	
ter in,	<i>Bakas timbo.</i>
To buy,	<i>Billce blee.</i>
By day-light,	<i>Pada Leangawes.</i>
A cage,	<i>Coorcongong.</i>
Calm,	<i>Ampa.</i>
Can be,	<i>Bollee jaddee.</i>
A candle,	<i>Dion.</i>
A cannon,	<i>Mirriam.</i>
Cannot,	<i>Tida bolee.</i>
Canoe,	<i>Cayin sagar.</i>
A capon,	<i>Ayam cambir.</i>

F

Captain,

66 *A Specimen of the MALAY Language.*

Captain,	<i>Pangooloo.</i>
A supercargo,	<i>Ana cooda.</i>
Certain or true,	<i>Tantoo, soongoo.</i>
Cinamon,	<i>Cayoo manio.</i>
Scizars,	<i>Gonting.</i>
Cloves,	<i>Cbarekee, chankan.</i>
A cloud,	<i>Awang.</i>
Coast,	<i>Pantee laoot.</i>
Game cock,	<i>Ayam balalang.</i>
Colours, or flags,	<i>Warna toongee.</i>
A ship's crew,	<i>Alam.</i>
How much does that	<i>Awa capal bakas etoo</i>
' vessel contain,	<i>mooat brapa.</i>
Contrary wind,	<i>Angin derree a couan.</i>
Red coral,	<i>Pealam marjan.</i>
How much cost that,	<i>Brapa de belleton etoo.</i>
Cost me a dollar,	<i>Kitta billee jungen ja-</i>
	<i>pical.</i>
Cotton,	<i>Capas.</i>
A windward country,	<i>Negree allas an yd.</i>
as Surat, Bengal,	
and coast of Coro-	
mandel, is called.	
A leeward country,	<i>Negree baa anyd.</i>
as all the lands to	
the eastward of Ac-	
kee to the Molluccas	
Cristal,	<i>Palamban.</i>

*A Specimen of the MALAY Language.* 67

A cow,	<i>Limboo betina sup.</i>
To cross the sea,	<i>Sabrang tampay,</i>
A cutlash,	<i>Somscar.</i>
Depart,	<i>Laloo.</i>
Go back,	<i>Polang.</i>
Evening,	<i>Petang arro.*</i>
Don't fail,	<i>Jangon tida.</i>
How far,	<i>Brapa jao.</i>
A fathom,	<i>Depa.</i>
Feel this,	<i>Iabat la en.</i>
The feet,	<i>Cakkee.</i>
Fifteen,	<i>Lima blas.</i>
A dry fig,	<i>Booa ara kirray.</i>
Salt fish,	<i>Ecan gatram.</i>
Dried fish,	<i>Ecan kiring.</i>
A fleet of ships,	<i>Ancatan kapal.</i>
A flower,	<i>Boonga.</i>
Flood,	<i>Ayer pasang.</i>
A nosegay,	<i>Boonga ja roone.</i>
A fire flie,	<i>Koorang koon.</i>
Did not,	<i>Boocon tida.</i>
Did,	<i>Be boeat.</i>
Do not,	<i>Jangon tina.</i>
A dog,	<i>Anjing.</i>
Dragon's blood,	<i>Jernong satinong.</i>
Dragon,	<i>Oolar naga.</i>
Drop anchor,	<i>Laboo jao.</i>
East,	<i>Timnore.</i>

68 *A Specimen of the MALAY Language.*

Ebbing water,	<i>Ayer sooroot.</i>
Eight,	<i>Delapan.</i>
Eighteen,	<i>Delapan blas.</i>
Eighty,	<i>Delapan poolos.</i>
To empty,	<i>Ampacan.</i>
Enough,	<i>Sooda.</i>
An ensign,	<i>Toongal.</i>
Enter,	<i>Masjoc.</i>
A Frenchman,	<i>Oran francees.</i>
Fresh water,	<i>Ayet tawar.</i>
A friend,	<i>Sobat.</i>
A foc,	<i>Jerde cha lab.</i>
A croaking frog,	<i>Bonee katab.</i>
Fruit,	<i>Booa.</i>
A gale of wind,	<i>Sa tiop angin</i>
Garlick,	<i>Bawang potce.</i>
Ginger,	<i>Allia.</i>
A glass to drink,	<i>Cacha chawan.</i>
A goat,	<i>Camling.</i>
To go,	<i>Pegee.</i>
Up,	<i>Naick.</i>
Up a river,	<i>Medick songay.</i>
Fine gold,	<i>Mas cheekee.</i>
Coinse dato,	<i>Mas meda.</i>
Gold ore,	<i>Mas keppall.</i>
Gold dust,	<i>Mas Ore.</i>
An iron to try gold,	<i>Ocye mas.</i>
A goose,	<i>Angoa.</i>

Grapes,

*A Specimen of the MALAY Language.* 69

Grapes,	<i>Booa angoor.</i>
Gray hair,	<i>Bambast odha.</i>
How great,	<i>Brapa besar.</i>
Greater,	<i>Lebbe besar.</i>
Green,	<i>Iju.</i>
I guess it is four o'clock.	<i>Saya kere kera ampat jam.</i>
A firelock,	<i>Astingarda.</i>
To load a gun,	<i>Mooat buddce.</i>
Prime a gun,	<i>Sombo buddce.</i>
Fire a gun,	<i>Passeng buddell.</i>
A house,	<i>Rosma.</i>
The right hand,	<i>Tangam Gonaem.</i>
Left hand,	<i>Tangan kirree.</i>
A handkerchief,	<i>Sap o edong.</i>
A hanger,	<i>Samseaa.</i>
A harbour,	<i>Telook.</i>
A hart, or deer,	<i>Rosfa.</i>
Not yet,	<i>Booloom.</i>
How long time,	<i>Brapa sama.</i>
How much does it all come to,	<i>Brapa jaddea samme.</i>
A Jew's harp,	<i>Jenjoong.</i>
An island,	<i>Pooloo.</i>
Keel of a ship,	<i>Pandat capal.</i>
To keep,	<i>Toongoo.</i>
A kid,	<i>Anak cambing.</i>
Give me a kiss,	<i>Bree cho m pad.</i>

70 *An Account of the Island of JAVA.*

I don't know,	<i>Kitta teda taoo.</i>
A lafs or virgin,	<i>Anak dara.</i>
A league,	<i>Gow.</i>
A lemon,	<i>Jerooc.</i>

MALAYS to ENGLISH Numbers.

1, <i>Satoo.</i>	8, <i>Delapan.</i>
2, <i>Dua.</i>	9, <i>Sambelan.</i>
3, <i>Teiga.</i>	10, <i>Sa pulo.</i>
4, <i>Ampat.</i>	20, <i>Dua pulo.</i>
5, <i>Lima.</i>	30, <i>Teiga pulo, &amp;c.</i>
6, <i>Anam.</i>	100, <i>Sa ratos.</i>
7, <i>Togoo.</i>	1000, <i>Sa ribo.</i>

All merchants and others residing here, as well as in many other parts of the East Indies, speak either this or the Portuguese language; for, without either one or the other, they could not carry on their commerce.

The chief commodities of this, and indeed of all the Sunda islands, are sugar, arrack, pepper, rice, and teak timber for building ships.

I have mentioned already the cocoa-tree; but there is one no less useful here,  
called

called by them the Libby-tree, and by the Europeans the Sagoe-tree. This tree grows in the woods, is hard, but thin, and produces much white pith, like our alder. Of this pith they make the thing we call sagoe, which, when 'boiled' in water, is very wholesome, pleasant, and nourishing, and you may boil it to what consistency you please. By adding a little wine and sugar, it is extremely delicious. I took it for breakfast many months, mixed with a spoonful or two of arrack. Of this pith the inhabitants sometimes make bread, when they are scarce of rice.

They grow some tobacco, but it is not near so strong as that of Virginia; it has an agreeable smell, and is only used in smoking by the natives. The Malays use no pipes, but roll a leaf to the thickness and length of a finger; this they light at one end, and smoke at the other, till two thirds is consumed, and then throw it away. They seldom drink any thing while they smoke.

Though they have grapes in plenty, yet their climate is too hot for making wine; so that what wine they use



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is imported from Europe, Persia, and the Cape of Good-Hope.

The chief cities are Bantam and Batavia.



A N

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A N  
A C C O U N T  
O F T H E  
C I T Y O F B A N T A M.

THE once famous BANTAM is situate at the west end of the island, and was formerly the flourishing metropolis of a great kingdom, and where the English and Dutch had factories till 1682; at which time our friends, the Dutch, fomented a war betwixt the old king and his son. The father would not come into their measures, and become their humble slave. But the son, like many of our European princes, more fond of a crown than wisdom, went into their measures. The

The Dutch, with the assistance of the rebels, set the son on the throne, and took the old king prisoner, and sent him to their settlement at Batavia, on the same island. In the year 1683, they pretended to have a power from the new king to set the English and Danes a-packing; which they did with a great deal of insolence and inhumanity. They next built a strong fort, within pistol-shot of one that the old king had erected as a bridle on their encroachments. Then they ruined the buildings, massacred many thousands of the innocent inhabitants, deprived the new king, who they had just set up, of his sovereignty, and have made him and his descendents, ever since, their humble vassals. Thus they reduced a large and populous city, and one of the largest ports in the eastern seas, twelve miles in circumference, to which all nations resorted, to a poor wretched place, where there is nothing to be seen but the ruins of what it once has been; and has neither trade nor any thing else to render it desirable. This city, such as it now is, is situated at the foot of a mountain, out of which issues three rivers, or rather one dividing itself

*An Account of the City of BANTAM.*

itself into three branches; two of <sup>which</sup> ~~which~~ surround the town, and the other runs through the middle of it,

The Dutch still keep a garrison here of four or five hundred soldiers, to secure their factory, and keep the natives in subjection, who have a rooted enmity at the Dutch: for if a Dutchman goes but a very small distance from the fort, it is a great chance if ever he returns. The natives throw the lance dexterously, and shoot poisoned darts through a wooden pipe fixed to their bows.

The only product of this part of the island is pepper. It abounds so much with this useful spice, that I have heard the inhabitants, and the Dutch themselves, say that they could export from this part 10,000 tons per annum.

The road is still pretty good for shipping, with a pleasant bay, in which several small islands are situated, which, till within these few years past, retained their English names. The natives called them by those names, to shew their regard for the English, and how much they lament the loss of their trade among them; and their king has no less reason. Though the  
Dutch

*An Account of the City of BANTAM.*

**D**utch allow him a kind of palace, and a Dutch-Malay guard to attend him at Batavia; yet he is under subjection to the Dutch general, and dare not do any thing without his allowance. The small grandeur he enjoys is a piece of Dutch policy, the better to keep the natives under subjection.



A N  
A C C O U N T  
O F T H E  
CITY of BATAVIA.

**B**ATAVIA, which is entirely subject to the Dutch, and the metropolis of their settlements in the East Indies, lies about forty miles to the eastward of Bantam; in  $60^{\circ}$  S. latitude, and  $160^{\circ}$  E. longitude from London.

This city is situate at the bottom of a fine bay, in which there are several small islands that break the violence of the waves, and in which one hundred sail may ride at anchor with safety. There is a fine flat country round the bay.

The

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The city is almost square, and is built with brick and white stone, after the manner of the houses in Holland. The streets are wide and straight: in twelve of the principal ones are canals in the middle, with fine stone-bridges over; and, on each side of the canals, fine rows of ever-green trees are planted. This situation not only makes the place very pleasant, but renders the scorching heat less intolerable about noon.

About the city is a strong wall, with thirty bastions, well planted with cannon. They are so placed that they can be of as much service against an insurrection in the city, as against an enemy without the walls; for the guns are easily brought to point down the principal streets and avenues of the place.

On the west side of the city stands a strong fort, which commands both town and road. It has four royal bastions faced with stone, but no other moat than the canals, which lie at some distance from the ramparts, are about twenty feet broad, and fordable in most places. The governor's house, and the houses of the principal officers of the Dutch company,



are within this fort ; so that it is crowded with buildings.

In the middle of the city there is a large square, which is used as a parade by the garrison. On the west side of this square, stands a great church, whose cupula, tho' not so large, yet resembles that of St. Paul's at London so much, that the English sailors commonly give it that name. On the south of this square is the Stadthouse, on the north a fine range of buildings, and on the east one of the great canals.

The suburbs, which, in some parts, reach half a league into the country, are as large as the city itself, and inhabited by Chinese, Portuguese, and Malays. In these suburbs, where the people are most industrious, are the greatest number of shops, and work-houses, for making arrack, sugar, &c. A few years ago, when the Chinese in the suburbs were more numerous than at present, the Dutch massacred about 30,000 of them, on pretence of their entering into a conspiracy to take the city \*. I once, in company with some Dutch peo-

\* But rather to plunder them of their riches, which they had got by industry and trade.

ple, termed it the Dutch Massacre, who smartly told me it was the Chinese war. I was obliged to change the term, lest I should have fallen a sacrifice to their resentment.

The governor allows the Chinese to chuse a judge from among themselves, for determining all private disputes. He allows them the free exercise of their religion, their temples, and burial-places.

No Chinese women are permitted, by the laws of China, to leave their own country: so that the China-men, in this place, are obliged to marry the natives.

Europeans that reside at Batavia buy, or keep as servants, the most beautiful Malay women. There are a few Dutch white women in the city, but so sickly and weak, that, were I to reside among them, I would sooner chuse one of the natives than one of them.

In this city are people of all nations, and all persuasions. To keep them under a regular government, and prevent rebellion, requires a deal of judgment and prudence, as well as power, in executing, with strictness and severity, the established law. The governor has a body of 20,000  
men

men under his command, 1000 of which are on duty day and night in and about the city. Most of the foldiers are but poorly clothed, and those of the Malays having neither stockings nor shoes, cut but a sorry figure; and few of them are able to stand the report of a gun, without skipping or crying, as if frightened out of their senses. There are indeed several expert Dutch officers over them, who, according to the maxims of government in those parts, keep them in strict discipline by chastisement and cruelty. The governor, who knows how much the world is taken with appearances, takes to himself the title of Governor-General of the East Indies, and keeps up the state and retinue of a king. When he goes abroad, his coach and six is preceded by a troop of horse guards, a company of halberdeers surround it, and another of foot bring up the rear. His guards are all clothed in yellow satin, trim'd with silver-lace, and make a more splendid show than the life-guards of any European prince. The Indian princes pay him great homage, and attend his levee. Their continuing above the rank of slaves depends on his will and

caprice. Sometimes thirty, and never less than twenty ships of war lie in the road, waiting his orders: with these he not only insults all the Indian princes in this part of the world, but crowns and dethrones them at pleasure.

Batavia is the great magazine of the Dutch East India company, and, I believe, the richest place too. Hither are consigned the rich merchandizes of Japan and the spice islands, as well as those of Persia, Surat, Bengal, and the coasts of Malabar and Coromandel, besides European commodities. They transport these Indian merchandizes into Europe, where they are converted into ready money. So that their India trade is so far from diminishing, that it increases their treasure more than all the other parts to which they trade. As a proof that they have more spice than they need for traffic, I have seen them burn whole ship-loads to keep up the price, and which I was told they do every two or three years. When I saw a large field covered with pepper, nutmegs, and other spices, all in flames, and Malay slaves placed at different distances, stirring up the fire with long iron hooks,

hooks, it brought Milton's representation of hell fresh into my memory.

The governor permits no spices to be exported by any private merchant, nor does he allow the inhabitants above two or three pounds in their houses for private use. Yet I have seen considerable quantities smuggled aboard by Malay slaves, and even by Dutchmen themselves.

The duties on goods, imported or exported by foreigners, is commonly farmed out by the governor to an opulent Chinese merchant.

About the months of November or December, about fifteen, sometimes twenty sail, of Jonks, from one hundred to eight hundred tons burden, come hither from China, who furnish this place with the merchandizes of that country, at an easier rate than they could have them by sending their ships thither. Each of these Jonks has a number of people aboard. Their hold is divided into several apartments, in each of which is a Chinese merchant with his goods. They commonly return to China in June.

In this city there are some very beautiful girls, dressed in a loose Indian habit.

But their continual chewing the nut of the beetle tree, which makes their teeth black, spoils them to a European taste. Both sexes use this nut, and smoke opium, which, tho' it dyes their teeth black, prevents tooth-achs and scurvy in the gums, and makes their lips of a vermilion colour. I soon learned this custom, which few of my countrymen would submit to, and continued it, till I could get none of them to use.

The common dress of the Dutch women is a white night-gown; but when they go to church, put on their European dress, with a female slave behind, carrying the beetle nut and chinam in a box.

The gentlemen and ladies, when they go abroad at noon, are attended by their slaves carrying umbrella's, or kita-sol's, over their heads, to keep off the rays of the sun. Nay, there is not a common Dutch soldier but must have his black boy to carry his umbrella and wipe his shoes.

The people here called Portuguese, tho' they speak the language, are rather blacker than the Malays, but wear the Portuguese habit. They are indeed the descendants of the Portuguese who first inhabited

bited here, and, mixing with the Malay women, are now little different from the natives. They still profess Christianity. I have been in their church, and saw their black priests perform service. They are proud and quarrelsome.

Men of business here seldom wear coats, but a waistcoat, white night-cap, and stockings, made either of linen or cotton; except when they pay a visit: and, as soon as you enter a gentleman's house, a slave waits at the door to pull it off.

Dinner here is commonly over about two o'clock, when water is brought by a slave round the table, to wash hands, face, and mouth. After smoking a pipe, all retire to particular apartments, and lie on a couch to sleep till four or five. During the time of sleep, a slave or two stands by each, with a fan, to cool, and keep off flies or insects from the face and hands.

The musketoe is a very small fly, stings smartly, makes a great buzzing, and is much of the nature of our gnats in England. When Europeans come first here, the musketoes are apt to be very troublesome to them; sometimes their faces and skin are so much swelled by the bites of these animals,

that a man will find difficulty to know his intimate acquaintance; but, after we have continued some time here, the effect of their sting is not so great. All the time I was in Batavia, I could get no rest in my bed for them, though I kept my gauze curtains as close as possible. A person is very ready to scratch the part of the body which is stung; but it is extremely dangerous: for I have seen some of our people's legs and arms full of running holes that I could have put my finger in, occasioned by their having imprudently scratched themselves after being bit. We all know that wounds and sores, in a hot climate, are very ready to putrify, and consequently are not easily cured.

I lodged in an Irishman's house, who had been in many countries, and various stations of life; and who seemed as if he had collected in himself the bad of each nation, but the good of none; yet had made a deal of money. When I went to bed, I had five or six slaves to attend me; one with a candle, another to untie my clothes, and save me the whole trouble of undressing myself. This, though the custom of the place, surprised me not a little,



little, and raised in me many reflections at one part of mankind being so miserably subjected to the other. For bed and board I paid a dollar, or crown, per diem.

Here the Dutch have a mint, where dollars, rupees, and other lesser monies are coined. Their workmen fall short of our Europeans in making springs for clocks and watches. They told me they could not be brought to a proper temper in hot countries.

The Dutch, from a political view, keep a number of Malays in their pay, called thief-catchers, or informers, who are commonly the most rascally; they are allowed to wear the Dutch livery, and to carry weapons. These fellows are ordered to patrol all night, in order to seize such slaves as they shall find on the street. If they find any run-away slaves, they are surrendered to their master next morning, who may punish them in what manner he pleases, but not to take their life without public authority. If they find slaves that have no masters, they are immediately chained together in couples, like hounds, and sent to work in repairing the fortifications, canals, and public works. Old

slaves, who have behaved well, are appointed over them as boatswains or masters, who, if the wretched slaves are either lazy or weak, lash them at pleasure till the blood comes from all parts of the naked body. These fellows are inexorable to all the cries of pity, which would move a British heart. Nothing but death, which many of them long wish for, can deliver them from this detestable tyranny. They are not allowed food to keep soul and body together; yet I have seen five hundred of them, all fastened in couples with a chain round their legs, driving down large trees into the canals, all making one doleful sound. As little respect is paid to age as to sex; some of them very old; some very young; and great numbers of women of all ages. I have been sensibly affected to see young, well shaped, and beautiful girls, about fourteen or fifteen years of age, chained and used so barbarously. I thought slavery even at St. Helena an hardship; but it is nothing to this, which is sufficient to melt the heart of any body but a Dutchman.

Though the slaves are used here as tyrannically as their masters please, yet their  
lives

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lives are only at the disposal of the public law. Any instances of the law inflicting death is generally upon Malays or Chinese; for there are few Dutchmen that suffer, being brought off some way or other. When I was there, a Dutch soldier having some words with a Chinese merchant, the latter was instantly stabbed. The Chinese chief indeed demanded justice, but I never heard of this soldier having been tried or punished. I saw several executions, and particularly one of a Chinaman for bestiality, which, it seems, is not uncommon; he was rack'd and quartered.

About two miles distance from the city, at a small wood by the side of a river, there is a most shocking spectacle of several hundreds of naked dead bodies hanging on trees, some by the heels, and others by the neck or shoulders, and all the bodies picked or torn by carniferous birds. The smell they occasion in this climate is, enough to produce an infection among the people.

In the years 1745 and 1746, there had been a great mortality in the island of Java, which reached Batavia, that had cut  
off

off many of the Europeans, as well as Malays; which put the Dutch in a great panic, this being the main spring and sinew of all their force, riches, and grandeur in the east.

There are several Scotch and Irish gentlemen here, who are people of the best fashion. I became acquainted with Mr. Scot and Mr. Garden, both Scotchmen, who were men in great reputation, and in a rising way. I here saw Captain Gosling, of the *Suffex*, who durst not appear in England, being charged with the crime of wilfully endeavouring to sink the ship not far from Madagascar, after having taken out the treasure, by making a hole in her bottom. This supposed villany was afterwards discovered to the Company by one Deane, who, with fifteen others, had the resolution to stay in the ship after she had been abandoned by the captain and officers, and carried her safe into a port on the south of Madagascar: On leaving which place they unfortunately run her on a shoal, where she was entirely lost. The lives of the men were saved, but none of them survived the hardships they afterwards suffered, excepting

cepting Deane, who was allowed a pension during life, and whose picture is exhibited in the India-house, as a memorial of his honesty.

One night as our boat was ashore, a man seemingly in great distress got into it, and hid himself. When our people came on board, the poor fellow started up, as lean as a skeleton, and told them he was an Englishman; that he had belonged to the same privateer, whose hulk then lay in Batavia road; and that the Dutch had made him a slave; so he escaped here for deliverance. But as his accounts of himself were otherwise suspicious, we sent him aboard an English vessel which lay near us, bound for Bombay; and that ship, for the same reason, put him on board a sloop bound for Bencoolen, an English settlement on the island of Summatra, belonging to the before mentioned Mr. Garden, and commanded by Captain Trilly, an Irishman.

There are here great numbers of small vessels that trade from one part of the East Indies to another, generally manned with black people, called *Laffcars*, and commanded by Europeans. Sometimes  
our

our English midshipmen desert the Company's ships for births in these Moorish vessels, as they get great encouragement, if they understand navigation; for the rich Moorish merchants chuse to have European commanders, if they can find them.

The ground, for about ten or twelve miles round Batavia, is pretty well cultivated. The gentlemen have their country-houses, gardens, and ponds, after the Dutch mode; and must always keep a numerous retinue of servants well-armed. The Dutch grandees have their pleasure-houses and gardens on the small islands in the bay, where they pass to and from one another in boats built for the purpose. These islands being shaded with groves, are very cool and pleasant.

The Dutch have a great many inferior settlements on the island of Java. Along the coast, eastward, they have the colonies of Cherabon, Tagal, Samarang, Damack, Cautus, Japara, Tampeira, Rambang, and Sorobay, having all small forts, and well peopled with Chinese.

Damack is noted for the abundance of rice it exports; Cautus for the quantity of sugar it produces; Tampeira for excellent

lent teak timber for building ships; and Sorobay for pepper, bees-wax, and iron.

The English had once a settlement at Japara, which is now well fortified by the Dutch.

Sugar is very cheap here, and was bought in 1747, when I was there, for two Dutch dollars per pecul, being 133 lb. English; best arrack at forty-five rix dollars, each, about four shillings value, per leaguer, containing 160 gallons; and sugar-candy at eight rix-dollars per pecul.

I come now, as I before intimated, to relate the circumstances of an event, wherein the injustice and cruelty exercised by the Dutch on the defenceless Princes of the eastern parts of India, the encroaching and domineering spirit of that people, and the indignities we sometimes submit to from these our good friends and allies, will be strongly pointed out and illustrated.

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A N  
A C C O U N T  
O F T H E

Dethronement of the KING of  
M A D U R A.

**T**HE island of Madura lies to the northward of the east point of the island of Java. It is small, but very fertile and pleasant. The inhabitants are part of that numerous eastern people called Malays, and were governed by a king of their own.

The Dutch, who are masters, or rather conquerors of the most part of the Indian islands, and who tyrannize over all the Indian princes thereabout, formed a project  
for



for taking it in the year 1746; and, after meditating a shew of reason for making war upon it, they, in the year 1747, on some very slight pretence, invaded and subdued it, and made slaves of the people.\* They sent ships of force from Batavia, who, landing their men, made terrible havoc among the poor inhabitants. As the Madurians were utterly unskilled in the European art of war, they were soon overpowered by the Dutch soldiery.

Their king, to avoid being taken and put to death, or, at least, made a slave, thought it most prudent to make his escape to another island. He accordingly gathered together as much of his treasure, consisting of gold, precious stones, and other valuable effects, as the little time he had to execute his design would permit; and, having put the treasure aboard some prows, he himself, with his son the young prince, his wives and concubines, and a few of his most faithful domestics, embarked, and set sail for Benjar on the island of Borneo, the Sultan of which was related to the king of Madura by intermarriages, and from whom he expected protection. They had several skir-

mishes

misshes with Dutch boats ; but, as they were all well armed, and acted with unusual desperation, they got clear of them.

They no sooner arrived at the river of Benjar, than the king descried a Dutch armed-ship, who had been dispatched thither to watch and take them, as the Dutch had suspected he would direct his flight to this place. They immediately put the prows into the creeks and inlets of the river, and hid themselves among the bushes and trees : when it was dark, they re-embarked, and sailed all night. In the morning, about sun-rising, they had got into a small creek, where they espied another vessel at anchor, which did not a little perplex them ; as their fears made them easily imagine it was another Dutchman.

After hiding some days in these perplexing circumstances, the old king observed a pinnace going from this latter ship up the river to Caytonga, the city where the Sultan resides, and, to his great joy, saw the pinnace wearing English colours. For, it seems, this old king loved the English, and had his youngest son, at that very time, at Bencoolen, an English settlement, for his education ; and, as he  
wanted

wanted to cultivate a good understanding with them, ordered his son to dress, and live after their manner. He therefore resolved to speak to the people in the pinnacle as she returned. He accordingly hailed her from the shore; and, in the most moving manner, represented his case to the boatswain, that he might repeat it to the Captain when he went on board.

The English ship was the *Onslow*, commanded by Captain Congreve, who was himself at that time ashore at the factory at Caytonga. Next day the boatswain went up the river, and told the Captain that the King of Madura had fled from his own dominion, and was now hiding in a creek of the river; that he had solicited the Captain's protection, and that, if the Captain would carry him to England, or to any of the English settlements, he would cheerfully resign his kingdom into his hands for the use of the company. The king further desired the boatswain to acquaint Captain Congreve, that he had considerable riches with him in the prow, and would disclose an immense treasure of gold, diamonds and precious  
H' stones,

stones, which he had hid in different parts of the island; all which, if the captain granted him his request, should be delivered up; and which would make his voyage sufficiently beneficial, tho' he proceeded no farther, but went directly for England.

The boatswain returned in the night, and delivered the King, who was waiting with impatience in the creek, this welcome answer, that he might, at a certain time of the night, bring all his prows along-side of the Onslow, and that he should be received and protected according to his desire.

Not a little elevated at this good news, they came at the time appointed, and were all received into the great cabin, and, after unloading the prows, were kindly entertained by the officers on board. Yet an unaccountable uneasiness still remained in the King's breast, who frequently said, that he should not think himself safe, till he was landed in England, or some English settlement; and begged, with most pressing intreaty, that these his secret fears might be represented to Captain Congreve, which they promised to do the first opportunity.

At

At break of day, the Dutch vessel discovered the Madurian prows along-side of the Onflow; and easily perceived that she had given protection to those whom they were sent to destroy or enslave.

This unlucky circumstance of neglecting to sink the prows, as soon as they were unloaded, gave occasion to one of the most melancholy scenes that, perhaps, has ever been acted in the east; in which is exhibited an instance of Dutch insolence and barbarity, on one part, and (what I wish could not be said) of English pusillanimity and misconduct, on the other.

The commander of the Dutch armed ship, well knowing it would be in vain to ask the King from the English ship, and that he could not take him by force, immediately wrote to the Sultan of Benjar, in a very insolent and threatening manner, telling him what had happened; and that, if he did not immediately secure the English captain, who he knew was ashore, and put him in close confinement, till the King of Madura was delivered up to him, he would represent him to his master the governor-general of Batavia, who would soon take satisfaction, on his refusal, by

using him in the same manner with the King of Madura. 'I believe it was contrary to the Sultan's natural inclination to put the Dutchman's scheme into execution, both because it was against a neighbouring prince, and his own near relation, and because it was offering violence to the English, who, of all other European nations, he esteemed the most. But, alas! the Dutch power and insolence, which is dreaded by all the Indian Princes in that part, and by none more than the Sultan of Benjar, constrained him to execute this Dutch scheme; which he did in the following manner.

At a time when the Sultan and Captain Congreve were conversing, and when there was no apprehension of danger, he was surpris'd with a band of men, put in irons, and then told the reason of it. He remained in prison some days; and, knowing no probable way of obtaining his liberty, he wrote a letter to the commanding officer, on board the *Onslow*, ordering him to deliver up the king, his retinue, and all that belonged to him, to the Dutch captain; for, until that was done, he could have no hopes of being released.

While

While this important packet was on the way down the river, we shall turn a little to our royal guests aboard.

The old king, who had scarcely a tooth, was tall, and well made, of a stern and awful aspect; and, if there is such a thing as princely dignity to be observed in the person of a man, when stripped of all the outward shew of royalty, it was conspicuous in him. The king and his son were not only graceful in their persons, but so affable and obliging in their behaviour, that they engaged the friendship of the officers, and even gained the pity and esteem of the most obdurate. The King's wives and concubines, some of whom were very young, and the flower of their country, were dressed in a close Indian habit, and might have passed in England for handsome. Their mute language, and submissive manner, drew respect from all the people aboard, and inclined them to their interest. They were polite in the eastern way, and could speak a little English, which is not so soft as their own language; and took a pleasure in imitating our manners and customs, of which they had understood something before by their friend the young prince at Bencoc-

len. They were often pressing rich presents of gold and jewels on the officers, some of which were accepted, but, by the most part, generously refused. In short, they were as agreeable to, and as much beloved by the people on board, as they were unfortunate themselves.

The boat now arrived with the melancholy and dreadful command. Though the King had still some painful and secret dread, yet he did not think his case so desperate as it now really was. The letter was delivered to the commanding officer while he was at supper with the King. The King was impatient to know the news from Caytonga; but, being a judge of mankind, and of the emotions of the passions, soon perceived in the officer's countenance, while he was reading the letter, something that shock'd and surprized him. To describe the disorder of the King, his anxiety and misery, is beyond the power of words. He asked the news; but, by the officer's silence and concern, was confirmed in his suspicion that it contained something gloomy to him. The King, whose mind debarred all rest, went abruptly from the round-house down to the  
the



the great cabin, where his people were, and imparted his fears, and, as much as his troubled breast, confusion, and consternation would permit, consulted what was proper to be done. He sent up a servant, who could speak English best, several times to enquire of the officer what was the matter; who as often returned without any satisfactory answer. He began now to see plainly his approaching ruin; and the people on board were preparing to lay hold of him, as they did not expect he would tamely submit himself. The soldiers appointed to apprehend him were armed with cutlasses and pistols, attended with others behind, armed with guns and bayonets. Thus prepared, they went down to the great cabin, but found the door barricaded. It was with reluctance, but they were forced to break open the cabin-door. The King seeing them use such violent measures, no longer entertained any hopes of safety: and, perhaps, thinking he would be put to death, and that, after his death, they might make slaves, or put to cruel deaths, all his women, he chose rather to put an end to their lives himself, by which they would be freed

from any future wretchedness and misery. On this, or some such conclusion, he immediately, with a \* cress, stabbed one of his principal women to the heart. The soldiers seeing the woman lie bleeding on the cabin-floor, rushed in; but the King, advancing with his destructive weapon in his hand, yet reeking with blood, drove them all out of the cabin. They were loth to shoot him; but, having rallied, they advanced and entered the cabin again. All the women were endeavouring to escape the unbounded fury of the king, some running out at the cabin-door, others jumping out of the windows into the sea. One of them, who had run out at the gallery-windows, and was climbing up to the poop of the ship, he flew after her like lightning, stretched out his arm, and, with more than infernal fury, stabbed her also, and she dropt into the sea. The soldiers stood amazed for some minutes at the tragical scene, till, at last, a young midshipman, more daring than the rest, and who headed the command, rushed through the crowd with a drawn cutlass in his hand, and, with the first blow, cut the king across the back of his hand.

\* A short dagger.

He

He turned in rage, and threw his weapon into the young man's side. Both were disabled, but neither mortally wounded. The king was taken, and, left in despair he might use violence to himself, or create more effusion of blood, he was bound fast, brought upon deck, and there had his wounds cleaned and dressed.

The most tragical part of the scene being finished, they had now time to take up the poor women who had leaped over board, and who had been all this time swimming in the water. They were brought upon deck, all very weak and faint, on which the people on board carried them down to the cabin, and did all in their power to relieve them. After they were recovered, they were all brought again on deck, and the commanding officer informed them of their fate. This scene was the more moving, as not only they, but all the people on board, shed tears most plentifully, as if no less sensibly touched with their misfortunes than they were themselves.

The king now began to weep bitterly, and, at those intervals when he could find utter-  
• ance,

ance, used expressions in his own language to the purpose following. “ O Englishmen! Englishmen! is there no assistance, no protection, for the unfortunate, against the insolence and cruelty of hard-hearted usurpers? Can the good English behold with indifference the destruction of their friends the Madurians, and patiently look on, and see innocence put in chains, without interposing and doing justice to every one? Why did you say you would protect me? Why did you ensnare me into your ship, with the ungenerous design of our ruin? Where are now your boasted friendship, greatness and power, generosity and justice, your sovereignty of the seas, and your specious title of being the aid and support of the weak and distressed? What can we do more to deserve it?--- I have offered you my all, and laid myself low at your feet; say, what more is in our power, and see how readily we will do it.”

After he had said all this, and more to the same purpose, he was interrupted by the commanding officer, telling him, that if it was in their power to assist or protect

tect him, they would do it with infinite pleasure; and, pointing to the tears and other signs of concern that appeared in his own and the countenance of all the people about him, appealed to himself, if these were not convincing proofs of their sorrow for his misfortunes. The king turned about, and, looking a minute or two very attentively upon the people, said, “ I can plainly see that you pity my misfortunes; but what is pity without assistance? Your pity, when you refuse your aid, but heightens my grief.”

Here he was interrupted again, by telling him, that they were obliged to inform him, that it was time to think of preparing himself to go aboard the Dutch ship, whose boats were on their way for him. On which, transported with grief and anger, he said, “ I am deceived, for you are not that good people I have long taken you for. Now, but alas! too late, I am convinced, to my cost, that you are as bad as our long declared foes the Dutch, and worse than I can call you.”

Here the king stopt, and seemed to put on a resolution to keep a profound silence.

On

On this occasion the officers on board, who could talk a little in the Malay tongue, endeavoured to convince him, in the strongest terms, that it was not in their power to act otherwise than they had done; they told him what Captain Congreve had suffered, or was still suffering on his account, and that his relation the Sultan was only to blame. The King's passion, being somewhat abated, and having a little recollected himself, he began to apologize for what he had said, and to blame the unkindness of the Sultan. But, after pausing a little, and considering the power and influence of the Dutch, and knowing how much the Sultan dreaded them, he seemed very resigned to his destiny, and willing to pardon him likewise.

All hopes of the King's deliverance from the hands of the merciless Dutch being now vanished, he, in strong and pathetic terms, recommended his son at Bencoolen to the care and protection of the English. Every word and every gesture was a sentence. "Remember his father  
 " to him; recount to him all his suffer-  
 " ings, which, O ye Englishmen! teach  
 " and help him to revenge." These, and  
 such

such like short sentences were frequently uttered by him. But it is as impossible for me to do justice in the translation of his words, as it is to describe all the wild distortions, and all the signs of inward grief, pain and agony, that appeared in his countenance.

All the people belonging to the old king, and particularly his women, were no less affected with their misfortunes. In these last, grief had overcome the power of speech, and all lay mute and full of woe; even tears themselves would flow no more.

Boats were now waiting to carry them aboard the Dutch ship. All the King's treasure was brought on deck, which he ordered to be distributed among the Onflow's officers and men, who were, in truth, much affected with his sufferings. He held out to them gold, precious stones, and other things of value. Some of the common men accepted, and others sily were handling every thing that was within their reach, contrary to express orders. But the officers absolutely declined not only to accept any new presents, but brought on deck, and faithfully

ly delivered back those that had been formerly accepted. The King, with much reluctance, and after often refusing and pressing, was obliged to take them back; though he assured them, that he no longer valued these things, further than as they were acceptable to them, and as a token of his respect for them and their countrymen; for that they were no longer of use to him, and would only serve to enrich and elate his haughty enemies. I dare say there are not many instances of such fine and costly things being refused. Gold, silver, diamonds, and precious stones, were the commodities in dispute. One of the officers had received a present of very rich *crice* from the King when he came on board, the handle of which was set with diamonds of different sizes; but being generous enough to press it back again upon the poor confused Monarch, a certain person belonging to the ship caught hold of it, and knocked off a large diamond on which he had fixed his covetous eye, before he delivered it to the King.

When he went aboard the Dutch boats, he, with tears trickling down his old cheeks, took his last farewell of the offi-



cers and people who had shewn such concern for him. The King thanked them all for it; the young Prince and the women, were too much sunk and confounded, to be able to utter one word. Thus they left the ship; and left it in such a manner, that, for many days after, the whole ship's company were so much sunk with concern, that they scarce spoke a word to one another, and, I believe, it made several of the common men serious, who had never been so before.

The King, his retinue, and baggage were all put aboard the Dutch ship, the generality of the people on board of which, were no more affected with the relation of this tragical event, than a jail-keeper of Newgate, when he sees a brother, sister, or wife, taking the last farewell of a malefactor going to Tyburn.

In the dusk of the evening the Dutch ship cut her cable, loosed her sails in a minute, and went down the river with great speed. The Commanding-officer of the Onflow, recollecting he had got no security for Captain Congreve's liberty, hoisted sail, and made after them as fast as possible. Several shot were fired to oblige her to bring to; but the distance being great, and  
night

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night coming on, the Dutch ship made her escape.

Next morning the Sultan and Captain had notice sent them of what had happened. By good fortune, no more was demanded but this information, and the Captain was immediately released.

Some little time after, the Dutch Governor at Batavia rewarded the Sultan for this service, by sending several armed ships, to erect forts upon his territories, and to insult him. By the confusion that this new procedure of the Dutch occasioned among the people at Caytonga, the Onslow was obliged to leave the island with only a little pepper in her hold, after waiting there a full year at a great expence, burying a great number of her men, and having the bottom of the vessel much eaten with worms.

In this miserable and weak condition she proceeded to China, with little provisions, and all her super-cargoes dead.

THE

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T H E  
J O U R N A L  
I N T H E  
S T R A I T S o f B A N C A .

ON the 11th and 12th June 1747, we had pretty good weather. We were in sight of Sumatra; and had frequent soundings from 9 to 13 fathoms water. On the 13th, the water fell 2 or 3 feet, and very hard sand at bottom. On the 15th, we saw several ships; we immediately prepared for engaging, and fired a gun for the largest of them to bring to. She proved to be the Onflow, Captain Congreve, who came aboard of us, and informed us, that they had suffered.

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ed many hardships since he left England, and particularly at Benjar, from which place he had departed nine days before; and that he was weakly manned, and scarce of provisions. On hearing his relation, we were not a little happy at the thoughts of our having escaped the like distresses; and that we were steering our course directly from Batavia towards China.

On the 16th, we had fair weather, and could from the mast-head, descry many creeks and rivers opening from the Island of Sumatra: but as only the other side of the island is inhabited, we could observe no buildings on the side we were passing.

On the 17th, we spoke with a Portuguese vessel, in a very crazy condition, and having all her sails patched with canvas of various colours; she belonged to Macoa, and had a great number of Chinese people on board, bound for Batavia.

On the 18th, met two Dutchmen, one of which was the guarda costa we had spoke with in the straits of Sunda, who had been now stationed here.

On the 19th, the wind being southerly, we had cloudy weather. Monopin hill  
bore

bore N. and the N. W. point of Sumatra W. by N. we had frequent soundings from 13 to 6 fathoms water; but all of a sudden we found ourselves fast aground in 3 fathoms water. Our ship being commodore, we made a signal for the Onslow and Dragon to come up. By their assistance we hove the ship astern, and, the ground being soft and muddy, by good luck we got off, and cast the stream-anchor.

On the 20th, we had a favourable wind; and, on the 21st, at sunset, we saw Lingon's island bearing West about seven leagues distance. We tried the current, and found it to set N. by E. at the rate of one mile an hour. The Onslow sailed very badly; and we were obliged to take a large prow in tow, which she had instead of a long-boat, and which they had bought from the Sultan of Benjar, having been an old pleasure-boat of the Sultan's.

On the 22d, we had cloudy weather and calms. The small island of Pulo-pisang bore W. about five leagues distance. We were in latitude, *per* observation,  $2^{\circ} 38' N.$  We found the prow we had in tow to be a dead weight upon us; and therefore,

with consent of the Onflow, we took all her upper works to pieces for firewood, took every thing of any value out of her, and turned her adrift.

On the 1st of July, we met with two Dutch Japan ships, which lay with us at Batavia; and on the 2d gave chase to a Chinese junk, but could not speak with her, without losing company with the Onflow and Dragon, who were already out of sight astern of us. We then slackened sail; and next day they came up with us, and informed us that the Supercargo of the Dragon had died the night before.

On the 7th, in the morning we saw the grand Ladrone Island bearing N. by W. distant 7 or 8 leagues. Two hills of a conic figure, called by sailors the Asses Ears, bore N. E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  N. latitude  $21^{\circ} 40'$  N. Having now been about 10 months from England, we were all very glad to see the utmost extent of our voyage.

On the 8th, came aboard a Chinese pilot from Macoa, and soon after another. I could not help admiring their dexterity in rowing; which they do with the greatest ease, and so quick, as to keep up with our ships when going at the rate of 4 or 5 knots.

As we passed along the coast of China, I thought it the finest prospect I had ever seen. When I saw their lofty pagadoes or steeples, fortifications, houses, and burying-places, every thing green, and carrying the appearance of plenty; it confirmed the ideas I had formed of them when in Europe, from Chinese paintings.

This evening we came a-breast of Macao, a fortified town said to belong to the Portuguese, though indeed to the Chinese, as it is governed by a Chinese Mandarin and soldiers. I was told that this island was given in a present to the Portuguese for some services they had done for the Chinese.

On the 9th, we sailed up Canton river. The Governors of several small forts on the side of it came on board, and, on examination, gave us a *chop* or pass.

Every place was pleasant and agreeable; but we did not find the people so; for, unless we had kept a watchful eye over them, the Mandarin's soldiers and attendants were ready to steal every little thing they could come at.

At 8 o'clock we passed the Bog of Tygers, and at noon the Lyon's Tower. I found the Europeans had given names to all the places hereabouts quite different from those given by the natives. The wind having failed us, we anchored about a mile below the Bankfall Island at Wampo; here some of our officers and supercargoes left the ship, in order to proceed up the river to Canton.

On the 10th weighed anchor, and came to the place opposite Bankfall Island, where all the European ships usually lie.

On the 11th, a midshipman, with eleven men well-armed, were sent up to Canton as a guard on the factory; and, on the 12th, we sent thither fundry stores.

From the 13th to the 18th, nothing remarkable occurred. We moored and unmoored our ship several times. We had every day numbers of poor miserable people coming aboard, and begging the victuals we left at dinner, and offering to wash our cloaths for them. Several small boats came from the shore with bread, fruit, *bockshue* and *samskew*, two kinds of liquors distilled from rice, and sugar-cane, which  
some



some of our seamen drank too liberally, when they could not get better liquor.

These liquors are drunk hot; and though a man be ever so much fuddled by them, yet next day no uneasiness ensues either from the head or stomach.

On Sunday the 19th, we manned and armed the pinnace and long-boat, and sent 24 chests of silver up to Canton.

From the 20th to the 29th, we had hot sultry weather, with small breezes from the W. and S. W. but in the night of the 29th the wind turned suddenly East, attended with thunder, lightening and heavy rains.

This day Mr. F——t, the company's Agent and Interpreter, came on board, in order to attend the Mandarin who was to measure our ship, according to custom. Towards noon, the *Hapoa* or customhouse-retinue went ashore with their boats into the paddy or rice-ground, being much afraid of a *Typhon* or hurricane, which happens commonly twice a year, and does terrible damage to vessels even up the river. In the evening the wind increased from E. N. E. with a cloudy and threatening sky, a sure indication that a *Typhon* was approaching; especially as the fishermen

observed numbers of small fish sheltering themselves under the shore, which is never seen but before these terrible storms. There was now a vast alteration on the appearance of the river. The day before it was quite crowded with small boats and vessels; now there was none to be seen, except junks, and large vessels.

On the 30th July, very heavy rains, and a hard gale, made us prepare for the worst. We threw out all our anchors. The wind increasing, every thing looked black and dismal, and, about three o'clock next morning, our pinnace sunk alongside of us, but hung fast by the ship. All her oars, sprit, and rudder were lost. In the evening it blowed prodigiously, and the water was raised so high, that it covered the greatest part of the Bankswall grounds.

On the 31st, the Typhon abated, the wind changing to S. and S.E. when our Supercargoes, the company's Agent, and the Chinese Linguist, went in a sampan to Wampo.

On August 1, the Captain, supercargoes, the Interpreter and Company's Agent, came again on board, to attend the Mandarin, who was appointed by the *Chongtong*  
or

or Vice-Roy of the province to measure our ship. He soon after arrived. We saluted him with 9 guns. He brought a numerous retinue with him. There was a great deal of magnificence and grandeur in his *sampans* or boats, but no less in his person and habit. He was attended by several inferior Mandarines, and these last had each their attendants. On his approaching our vessel, a band of musick played all the time, and a small boat was sent some way before the rest, to fix a grand ladder to our ship, on each side of which ladder, a row of servants were placed from the top to the surface of the water, by which the Mandarin passed from his sampan up into the ship.

On entering the quarter-deck, the Mandarin saluted the Captain with a great deal of complaisance, and the inferior Mandarines, with bended knee, did the same. The Chinese Interpreter and Mr. F—t the Company's Agent, stood by to explain what passed, between the Mandarin and the Captain or Supercargoes.

The chief Mandarin was seated on a grand chair, which was brought on board, and placed on the quarter-deck for him,  
while

while the inferior Mandarines measured the ship, which took about an hour.

At his departure there was a great deal of ceremony, in cringing, bowing, and firing cannon. He next visited the On-flow and Dragon, and a Danish ship, with the same parade and ceremony.

On the 3d, came up the river the Gustavus Wilhem the Dutchman that we saw, and feared so much for an enemy, on our way to St. Helena, and who also lay along side of us in Batavia road.

From the 3d to the 16th, the weather was exceeding hot, some fresh breezes from W. N. W. and much thunder in the nights. We were employed in sending up lead, stores, and all sorts of goods to the factory at Canton and to the Bankfall.

On the 16th, the Norfolk, Stafford, York and St. George, arrived in the mouth of the river; which gave us much pleasure, having all come directly from England.

From the 16th to the 25th the same sultry weather; but from the 25th to the 28th somewhat more tolerable. On the 28th arrived the Lynn, Capt. Gilberts, from Bombay.

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From the 29th to the 7th of September, we had most scorching winds; and from the 7th of September to October 1. very sultry heat. Yet our people were employed, as much as possible, in caulking, and refitting the ship. Several of our ship's company were seized with fevers; one died, another was drowned while bathing himself, and a third fell over board on the longboat and was killed.

On the 2d of October, the weather turned a great deal cooler, with fine light breezes from the N. E.

From this day to the 30th, we received all our cargoe, consisting of china, tea, &c. on board, and were beginning to prepare for our passage homeward.

On the 30th, being his Majesty's birthday, all the English, Danish and Dutch ships in the river, fired each 21 guns. At the old English factory at Canton, the colours, of the richest silk, were displayed all day, and, in the evening, a most magnificent entertainment was made for the principal English, Dutch, and Danish officers, who all came, as is customary on such occasions, in their most elegant dresses. After supper, which, for the variety,  
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and the singular manner in which it was served up, exceeded any thing I had ever seen of the kind; there were exhibited many curious fire-works after the Chinese manner. Likewise a Chinese play was acted, which gave great satisfaction; after which, a farce by some Europeans. But so different is the Chinese taste from ours, that, on exhibiting their farce, all the grand Chinese merchants left the company, and went home.

From the 30th October to the 15th November, fine cool weather. On the 16th we saluted the Vice-Roy or Chongtou, who was passing from the grand *pagoda* or temple, where he had been paying his devotion. His retinue was splendid; a great number of boats followed him, displaying different colours and badges of honour.

We were from this time very busy taking in provisions, water, &c. and on the 20th, our pilot who had brought us up the river, came on board, in order to carry us down and over the bar. We took five days in warping down to the mouth of the river, where we anchored till such time as the Lynn, Onslow, and Dragon should join us.

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From December 29th, all the ships lay at anchor at this place, receiving on board goods on the company's account, and an addition to our provisions and fresh water.

And, on the 10th of January 1748, all possible preparations were making to sail for England. And though it should be thought we might be glad we were going homeward; yet many of us expressed great sorrow at leaving China, a country so healthful, plentiful and pleasant, where we had the company of some hundreds of our countrymen and other Europeans, whose kindness to each other is very great.

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# A C C O U N T.

O F T H E

## E M P I R E O F C H I N A ;

P A R T I C U L A R L Y O F

### T h e P R O V I N C E o f C A N T O N .

**C**HINA is situated in the eastern part of Asia, bounded by Tartary on the N. W. the empire of the Great Mogul and India beyond the Ganges on the W. Tonquin and the Indian sea between it and the Philippine Isles on the S. and the Chinese sea, which runs between it and Japan on the E. from 20 to 42° N. latit. and 95° to 126 longit. It is divided into North  
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and



and South China ; the first containing seven provinces, the chief of which is Pekin, and is the imperial city ; and the latter containing nine provinces.

In these 16 provinces are reckoned 155 capital cities, 1312 of second rank, and 2357 fortified towns; 10,128,789 families; and between 58 and 60 millions of people ; and Pekin, the Imperial city, contains more than 2 millions of these. It is said to be the largest city in the world, being 6 leagues in circumference.

Formerly China was governed by kings of its own. As they bordered with the Tartars, these people made frequent incursions among them. To prevent which, the Chinese built a great wall, to separate China from Tartary, and is indeed the most remarkable in the world. It is built of brick and mortar so well tempered, that it has already stood 1800 years, and yet little decayed. Its height is 30 feet, and broad enough at top for eight people to ride abreast.

But, about the year 1645, the Tartars taking advantage of some divisions which had arisen in China ; invaded it with a powerful army, and, after much bloodshed,

shed, at last conquered it. So that now both China and Tartary constitute one empire, subject to a Tartar prince, whose power is as despotic as can be imagined; his commands admit of no delay; the lives of his people, yea of the princes of the blood, are at his disposal; and he must never be spoke to, but prostrate or on the knees.

The Tartars being much inferior to the Chinese in number, were obliged to use all the arts of policy as well as power, to keep them in subjection. One remarkable edict was, to oblige the Chinese to cut off their hair, and to dress after the manner of the Tartars, that the inconsiderable number of these last might not so easily be discovered.

In the northern provinces, the winters are usually very severe for four months, namely, from November to March, where they have almost continual frost and snow.

But in the southern provinces they never see one or 'tother, but enjoy a clear and serene sky all the year, excepting about the time of the vernal and autumnal equinox, when there are some violent storms  
and

and sometimes a little chilly weather; which is indeed all the winter they have.

Tartary may be as well said to have submitted to China, as China to Tartary: for in China is the seat of empire, and all the supreme courts of justice. There all the wealth of the united kingdoms is accumulated; there all the honours are conferred; and consequently thither is the resort of people of the highest rank and opulence.

China is still governed by its ancient laws, and Vice-Roys are appointed in each province by the Emperor, whose residences are every where well fortified.

In such an extensive empire, we need not wonder, that the soil, as well as the complexions of the people, are different. But generally the soil is rich, in most places producing two, and, in some places, three crops in the year. Yet the people are so industrious, and such lovers of agriculture, that there is scarce an inch of uncultivated ground to be seen.

Their chief grain is rice, which they use in bread; and, besides a number of fruits to be met with in Europe, they have several peculiar to themselves.

There is great abundance of various kinds of fish in all the lakes and rivers, which are very numerous over the whole empire; and fowls both wild and tame are no less plentiful.

There are few places in China, but what enjoy the conveniency of a navigable river; so that wherever there is a town upon the land, there is another of boats upon the water.

Through every province there is one grand canal, which serves as a high-road; and from these several smaller ones are cut, and branched out, that terminate at some town or village.

There is a communication, by means of a grand canal, between Canton, the southernmost part of China, and Pekin, the imperial city in the north, which is upwards of 1200 miles; and is only interrupted by a mountain in the province of *Kiamsi*, where they must travel a short day's journey by land. The roads are generally broad, and kept in good repair; and, at very small distances, there are guard-houses built for the country-militia, in order to preserve the peace, and to forward the dispatches of the court. By this expedient,

ent, there are very few instances of robberies.

They travel generally on horse-back, sometimes in chairs. Their horses are small, but nimble and sure-footed, and they use a sort of soft saddle, not much different from ours in Europe, but always keep very short stirrups, their knees being almost equal with the horse's shoulder. The chairs are made of bamboo, a sort of cane, and have no glass; in other respects they are much like ours; but those in which the ladies are carried are always provided with a lattice or blind to prevent their seeing or being seen. A piece of wood is placed cross from the end of one pole to the end of the other, which the chairmen lay upon their shoulders, and never carry the poles in their hands.

Most of the goods and commodities go by water-carriage, which is here very cheap; whatever goes by land is generally carried upon men's shoulders, the poorer sort of people being used as slaves.

Their records are said to be very ancient, reaching back several thousand years. They possessed the art of painting, of making gun-powder, and understood the use

of figures as in Europe, yet they have a little board, of about a foot and an half long, across which ten or twelve parallel lines are drawn, and upon which are strung several moveable buttons: by putting these together, or separating them, which they do very fast, they cast up accounts very accurately and speedily.

Though they pretend to be the inventors of music, and use a great variety of instruments; yet their music is, by the best judges, thought very imperfect.

They have diligently studied astronomy, and have made many observations and calculations; yet, when the Jesuits came among them, they shewed them many errors they had fallen into on that head, and corrected and reformed their Kalendar. They are mighty astrologers and fortune-tellers.

The Chinese are such excellent imitators of art, that they can now make glass, watches, pistols, or any piece of mechanism from European patterns. Their sculpture is well performed. The gates of their cities, towers and bridges, are very august. Yet they use not near so many working-tools as we do in Europe.

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In the computation of time, they reckon two of our hours only one ; so that their natural day consists of 12 hours, beginning from 12 at night.

The Chinese language is not only difficult to learn, but is as difficult to speak after it is learned. Some say it contains only about 230 words, mostly monosyllables, at least they seem so to us from their manner of pronunciation ; and that they are multiplied or varied by the different accents that are given them ; for that the same word, pronounced with a stronger or weaker inflection of the voice, is of different significations. Others say, that there are five keys or tones in which each word may be spoken ; and that, if you vary the accent or key ever so little, it often gives the word a counter-sense. So that the language, if spoken exactly, is a kind of music, and has a real harmony. There are some people among them of such retentive memories, that they will learn a book in a few days ; and yet take a month to pronounce one word with propriety.

The dialect differs somewhat in the different provinces; but all their writings agree in the same general characters or marks, and are read by all. The Court or Mandarin dialect is used in all the courts of justice, and understood every where in the empire.

They have no alphabet; each character is a syllable, or an entire word. The art of putting letters together to form a word is a mystery to them. The Millionaries assign this great multitude of characters as a principal reason that the Chinese have made such small improvement in science. Though a great part of their time is spent in learning to read and write the characters, yet no one man is master of them all; for they are esteemed learned who can decypher 15 or 20,000 of them, and there is no less than 24,000 in all. In writing, the characters are placed in a perpendicular line from the top to the bottom of the page. Instead of a pen, they use a pencil, which they do not hold obliquely, but perpendicularly upon the paper. The paper they use is made of the rhind of the bamboo, which they beat out into sheets ten or twelve feet long. They wash it over  
with



with varnish, to prevent the ink from sinking. It is much smoother, but not so durable as our European paper; for being made of bark, the worm is apt to destroy it. This is the reason that no ancient manuscripts are to be met with in this country. Their libraries consist only of copies of authentic originals, as they are forced, for the above reason, to transcribe or reprint their copies every few years. They write but on one side of the paper, and double the leaves when they write on the back, which are so thin and straight, that it is scarcely discernible that they are two. A fair hand-writing is esteemed a great qualification here, so that without it a man has no chance for preferment.

Their ink is composed of lamp-black and other materials: the best of which is that made of the foot of hogs grease. They mix oil and perfumes with it to give it an agreeable flavour. After it is made into paste, they form it into moulds of various shapes, and dry it for use. When they are to write, they put a little water on a small marble stone, and rub the ink upon it, till it is thick. This makes

a fine shining black, and seldom spreads beyond the point of the pencil.

Printing has been long practised in China. They glew a leaf of writing upon a board, and then cut out the characters according to the writing, so that the character perfectly resembles the original copy. The boards which compose an ordinary volume, to be printed in this manner, will fill a large room.

Merit alone can advance a man to any considerable place in China, as there are here no hereditary nobility. The whole nation, therefore, apply themselves to learning, trade, or agriculture. As a man's fortune depends entirely upon his capacity and application to business, great care is taken of the education of their children: so that they have few idle hands or drones that live on the industry and labour of others.

The Emperor styles himself, *The holy Son of Heaven, sole Governor of the Earth, Great Father of his people, &c.* So fond are they of the last of these epithets, that when any of the subjects would make a panegyric on their prince, the affection he has for his people is made the grand topic, and

and much more considered than his despotic power, learning or policy; and this is always most acceptable to the Emperor himself.

The government of China, we are told, has continued monarchical for upwards of 4000 years; and that the reigning Emperor has a power to alter the succession, and to confer the imperial dignity on any of his subjects, though no relation of the royal family. But then his act must be ratified by the great council of *Calao*, which is made up of princes of the blood and ministers of state. The people hold the concurrence of this council so indispensably necessary, and of such weight, that the Emperor, absolute as he is, seldom attempts to enact a new law, or to repeal one in force, especially in religious matters, without its assent. Nay, though he is possessed of the richest treasury, and has the most numerous army of any prince on the face of the earth; yet he will not apply the former, nor give orders to the latter, in a case of importance, without having his resolutions ratified before the proper courts which can put them into execution. And, when he finds his resolutions disrelished by the council, and can-

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not prevail by presents or promises, he will turn out such members as are refractory, and new-model the council, till he finds a majority to his mind.

As the grandeur of the Court of Pekin, the concourse of Mandarinés and officers of state thither, and the numerous retinue of women and eunuchs that surround the Monarch, are described by most authors who have given any account of China, it would be superfluous to trouble the reader with a detail of them here.

No business of importance is transacted in this vast empire, without the Monarch's knowledge. Every sentence of the courts of justice, especially in capital cases, is either ratified or reversed according to his pleasure; and, when he retires into the private apartments of his palace, where his only attendants are women and eunuchs, he is chiefly employed in the affairs of state, and more at liberty to consider the grievances of any of his subjects; for any private person may throw in a petition to the Sovereign, which he is bound by the constitution of China to consider and determine. The Mandarinés likewise can petition him when he does not act agreeably to the constitution.

There





There are different orders of Mandarines. Each has his particular badge of distinction. . Those of the civil order have the figure of a dove, or some harmless animal embroidered on the back and forepart of their robes ; those of the military, a lion, tyger, or dragon ; which makes a splendid appearance.

Though the laws of China are good, yet, like those of some European nations, they are ill executed. Bribery and corruption reigns in the courts of justice ; the ministers of state at Pekin extort great sums from the Vice-Roys of provinces ; and these again squeeze the Mandarines under them ; which last, by consequence, fleece the inferior officers. And though the law prohibits such pernicious practices, and the Emperor punishes the delinquents very severely when discovered ; yet they are so much connived at among the parties, that a detection seldom happens.

Obedience and submission to parents is so strictly enjoined by the Chinese law, that, if a child should presume to insult his parent, or lay violent hands upon him, for which no more proof is required but  
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the father's testimony, the criminal is sentenced to be cut piece-meal, and burnt; not only his own house, but the houses adjacent, are destroyed, to remain as monuments of the detested crime. Treason or rebellion are punished with the severest torments. If a person of quality commits murder, he is strangled, and one of the lower rank is beheaded. Theft and adultery is never punished with death; for these crimes they inflict the *bastinado*, which is performed thus: the criminal is laid prostrate on the ground; and the executioner with a large cudgel, gives a number of blows on the buttocks proportionable to the offence; nor is this punishment thought scandalous, as the Mandarines sometimes undergo it themselves. If the crime is not judged so great as to deserve the *bastinado*, a thick board is hung about the neck of the criminal, and the crime written on it; in which posture he is exposed a certain number of days to public view. The offender, after he is punished, is obliged to fall upon his knees, before the magistrate, and thank him for his seasonable correction; though indeed one blow of the *bastinado* might  
lame



lame him, if the executioner were not bribed.

There are no barristers or lawyers in China; every man has liberty to manage his own cause; and if he thinks himself aggrieved by an inferior, he may appeal to a superior court.

The military force of the empire is great: some have even ventured to affirm, however improbable it may appear to Europeans, no less than five millions of soldiers are kept in pay in time of peace, most of them cavalry; and that there are 160,000 horse quartered in Pekin, armed with scymetars and launces only. The cavalry never use fire-arms, and the infantry very few; their weapons being swords and bows. The principal reason for keeping up such a great force is only to keep the country quiet; for, now that China and Tartary are united, they have no foreign enemy to fear. How superior soever their number, yet from their want of fire-arms and discipline, they could not stand the charge of our regular European troops. They have, indeed, a tolerable train of artillery, which the Jesuit Missionaries assisted them in casting. The soldiers are generally married,

ried, and have as much rice and other provisions allowed each, as to subsist their family.

In the city of Pekin there is always a magazine of rice laid up in store-houses to answer the exigency of any part of the empire for three years.

Those employed in the military-government are mostly Tartars; those in the civil, are Chinese; which, it is believed, are best adapted to their several geniuses.

The generality of the Chinese are not tall, but well set, and have broad faces, short noses, little dark eyes, thin beards, and all of them black hair. They allow their beards to grow long on the upper lip and bottom of the chin. They pull off the hair from their cheeks with tweezers, and, till they arrive at thirty years of age, seldom any beard appears. Those of the men who are esteemed learned, allow the nails of their fingers, especially those of the left hand, to grow near as long as their fingers, to distinguish them from mechanics.

A man that is tall and corpulent, is much admired; and, added to this, if he has a broad forehead, little eyes, a short nose,

nose, large ears, and a long thin beard, he is looked upon as a complete beauty. A strong voice is reckoned a fine accomplishment in a Mandarin of war, or a civil magistrate.

No hats are used by the men, but a small round cap, which does not reach their ears. In summer they always carry a fan to cool and screen them from the heat of the sun. Their heads are all shaved, except a lock on the upper and back part, which the better sort wear rolled up. The poorer seldom wear any cap, and have this lock hanging down their back, and platted, which is in many very long. The cap is made of *rattan*, split, and woven in a pyramidal form. In winter they use a cap of black velvet, plush, or fatten, sometimes turned up with fox-skin, and lined with fatten, and fastened under the chin by a string. There is a tuft of silk fringe, or hair dyed red, fastened, by a large amber or glass button, to the top of the cap, and covers it all over, which, being very light, waves in the wind, and makes a beautiful appearance.

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Their vest folds over the breast, and is so long, that it reaches the ground. They fasten it with five small buttons, on the left side, to as many silk loops on the other; the sleeves are wide at the shoulder, turn gradually narrow towards the wrists, and cover the hands to the finger ends. A silk sash is tied round their middle that reaches to the knee.

In summer their necks are bare; but in winter they are covered with satin or velvet sewed to the vest, and sometimes a tip-pet of sable or fox-skin.

Above the vest, they wear a loose gown, which is sometimes blue, green, black, or any colour the wearer fancies. This gown is shorter than the vest; and those worn by the Tartar soldiers do not come farther than their knees. When they receive company, or pay visits, they put on a very wide gown over the other, of very fine silk, and each garment is of different colours.

Men and women wear a shirt of fine taffety or cotton under the vest, laced on the right-side, with drawers of the same. The men wear a kind of silk boots quilted with cotton. Their slippers, which  
have

have strong soles, are fastened to the boot, and are made of silk or callico. In the head of the boot, they stuff in the end of their drawers.

Though the people of distinction never appear uncovered in public, but observe a laudable decorum, yet at home they wear nothing but a thin vest or drawers of taffety or linnen.

They hang a pocket at their girdles, for holding tobacco; and another for their pipe, by a silken string. Their pipes are sometimes of a metal they call *toothenaque*, but oftener of black or red wood. Those pipes they carry about with them are of an ordinary length, and which they sometimes put into their boots; those they use at home are four or five feet long, and made of a small bamboo reed. They have another loose pocket for holding the knife and bits of wood used in eating. Their handkerchief is always fastened to their girdle.

They wear their swords on the left side with the point forwards.

The Chinese women, who are not exposed to the heat of the sun, are as fair as any of their sex in Europe; and, except

that they have generally very little eyes and short noses, may vie with them in beauty. Their foreheads are large; their eyebrows small and well arched; their eyes black, but almost hid with the lids; their mouth little, with plump lips of a deep vermilion colour; their cheeks and chins of a fine symmetry; their neck small, their arms long and slender, and a pretty little hand. The nails of the ladies fingers are never pared, but kept very clean; they allow them to grow more than two inches in length, to show that they are not employed in servile work. Their hair, which is naturally long and black, they set on wires fitted to their head, raised four or five inches, and fastened by bodkins of gold or silver, and filled with artificial flowers of beautiful colours, which makes the most splendid head-dress in the world. The maids and unmarried women are distinguished from those that are married, by keeping a circle of the lower part of their hair hanging down.

The ladies wear fine silk or linen drawers that reach to the ankles, and are there tied; above which they put a loose callico or thin silk gown reaching to their  
their

their feet, the lower part of which is neatly platted and embroidered: and over this again, they have a large straight gown of the finest silk, with wide sleeves, which reach to their hands, and would reach to the ground if not folded up; the sleeves are wide enough to contain their bodies. The upper gown, which is tied about the middle with a silken belt, reaches down to the middle of their legs, and has a fine embroidered neck reaching half way between the neck and shoulder-bone. In and about Peking, and the northern provinces, they wear a caul of thin silk over their hair; and, in cold weather, they wrap a coronet or black hood about it. But what is most remarkable, is their little feet, in which their chief beauty is thought to lie. As soon as a girl arrives at three years of age, her feet are bound up so hard that they cannot grow; which, indeed, makes their grown women, whose feet are not larger than those of a child of four years old, walk so awkwardly. They wear embroidered silk shoes, not unlike those of our English ladies, except that they are turned up at the toes; and the heels, which are placed near the middle, are

round and equal from top to bottom. I think they walk entirely on the heel, which looks rather like tripping than walking. From this restraint of nature, their ankles are very clumsy; yet so proud are they of their little feet, that they fondly show them when they have the least opportunity, as it is here the greatest mark of female beauty.

The Chinese of both sexes had retained the same uniform dress for above 2000 years, till the Tartars, as we before observed, ordered the men to cut off their hair. Yet they cannot be reconciled to perukes, nor to breeches and stockings; for the European custom of shewing so much leg and thigh, is very odd to them. The whole dress of either sex is very light; especially that of the women, which will not weigh above five pounds at the most. This at least may be said of their dress, that it is much more natural, easy and modest, than that of those nations, where the young girls have not their feet, but their bodies early confined to an unnatural shape, and are made slaves to a foolish and inconvenient custom. They are very clean;  
both



both sexes generally bathing and washing after any evacuation.

The simplicity of their dress is not near so great as that of their diet: nor are they more superstitious than our European Protestants; they are even less so, for they not only use the same kinds of flesh, fish and fowl that we do, but even horse-flesh is esteemed proper food. Nor do they reckon dogs, cats, snakes, frogs, or indeed any kind of vermin, unwholesome diet. But their common food is rice, roots, and garden-stuff, and pretty often broths and soups. Salt or pepper are never brought to table; these are only used in dressing. Their meat is boiled or broiled; and, instead of bringing a large joint to table, as the Europeans do, they have it all cut into square bits the size of dice before it is presented; nor do they use any table-cloth, napkins, spoons, knives and forks; instead of which, they use two little short sticks of ebony tipped with silver, with which they lift their meat very dexterously. They hold the cup near their lips, which contains their rice and broth, and convey them into their mouths very expeditiously.

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ditionally with the same small sticks. They, contrary to the custom of all the other eastern nations, have their tables and chairs very high; and, at an entertainment, each person has a square table to himself, on which meat and rice are served in plate or china cups and saucers. The better sort feed very luxuriously; they eat their meat cold, but their liquor hot. Tea is their principal liquor, which they always drink without sugar. In the morning a large tin vessel is made full of it, to serve the family for that day. This tin vessel is covered very close, and put into another vessel of wood, which keeps the tea warm all day, and is drawn off into cups by a screw-cock. This coarser kind of tea is used by the family in common, as I could not discover they drank any thing else. But, when company is in the house, every person has a cup with a close cover set before him, and tea of such kind or quantity as the person pleases is put into it; after which a servant attends with a sauce-pan of boiling water to pour into each cup.

The water in China is seldom drank cold; and indeed it is not very safe, till  
herbs

herbs are infused into it, or till it is boiled or mixed with spirits; for their water is seldom pure.

They have no wine, though they have plenty of grapes; nor do they brew any liquor from barley: yet they have several strong liquors which they make from rice or wheat, of which the most common are *Hockshue* and *Shamshue*: the first is of the colour of our English brown beer, and very strong, and very clear. I am told that it is no other than an infusion of wheat in scalding-hot water: it drinks more like mum than beer. *Shamshue* is a spirit distilled from rice, and is either of a pale or reddish colour. It drinks best hot; and our European sailors, who use it much while here, all agree that it is wholesome, and never causes headaches and sickness after it, as their other liquors do, when they get drunk.

There is a peculiar ceremony in the Chinese entertainments. All the guests at table sit silent. When they drink, upon a signal given by the master of the house, they all lift their cups together, put them to their mouths at once, and set down the cups in the same manner. Next they lift their

their feeding-sticks at once with a flourish, fasten them in their plates, and take up a bit of meat; and they eat them so, as that all shall be ready to keep time and motion in lifting the second bit; and so on, till all have dined. And if any person does not chuse to eat and drink the same quantity with the rest, yet he must make the motion. As the cups are little, they will drink twenty times at a meal. The desert consists of choice fruits and sweetmeats. These, after having taken a turn in the garden, they use with their tea. After all is over, a long bamboo reed or pipe is brought to the master, who fills it with tobacco, and presents it to the oldest in the company, or to him to whom he means to shew the greatest respect; who, after a great many refusals and compliments, is prevailed to accept of it first. As the pipe is so long that the person cannot reach the bowl to light it, a servant waits with a match ready to kindle it as soon as the person puts it to his mouth. The bowl or head of their pipes is very small, and will not contain the half that an English pipe will hold. The tobacco is brown, small; and light, but of an agreeable





agreeable flavour, and is so dry, that by the time they have taken three or four whiffs, it is all burnt. They seldom take more than four or five whiffs, and, shutting the mouth, the smoke issues gradually out of mouth, nose, and ears, and sometimes they swallow it.

Ceremony is an essential part of the Chinese constitution. Tradesmen, husbandmen, and even servants, have their respective forms of ceremony appointed them, which, it is believed, contributes towards civilizing them. Swearing or obscene talk is not common in China. The form of salutation is, by bowing the head a little, and laying the right-hand on the breast. When they would show very great respect, they join both hands together, and bow their whole body. When the master of a house salutes one of greater quality than himself, he does it, by falling on one knee, where he remains, till the person saluted take him up, which is done instantly. They never uncover the head in salutations; and it is looked upon as an affront to salute a magistrate in public, unless the person has particular business with him. When a Mandarin  
or

or magistrate passes, the common people stand with their arms across, and their eyes fixed on the ground.

Ambassadors to the court of China are allowed a master of the ceremonies, to instruct them forty days before they are admitted to an audience. Even the common people are greatly offended if they see strangers omitting to cringe and fawn according to the prescribed rules. The state with which the Emperor receives foreign ambassadors, will give some idea of the grandeur of the Monarch. The following account is taken from a jesuit who resided long at Peking.

Peking is divided into two cities, the Tartar city, and the Chinese city. The Emperor's palace stands in the middle of the Tartar city, is of an oblong figure, and two miles in length, one in breadth, and defended by a good wall. The palace includes not only the Emperor's house and gardens, but the apartments of the officers of state, and of a great number of artificers, who are constantly employed in repairing and keeping all his works in order. None are permitted to sleep in the innermost



innermost palace but eunuchs. It consists of nine vast courts; each court has a splendid marble arch at its entry, and over each a square Gothic building; yet the office-houses on each side are but mean. The Emperor's own apartment in the farthest court, is supported by a number of large marble pillars, and covered with glazed tiles that shine like gold. The marble stairs by which you ascend the rooms of state, the carved work, gildings, and paintings with which they are adorned, look very magnificent; though there is but little contrivance or uniformity in the buildings. In the middle of one of these inner courts, there is a solid square basis, on which is placed a balustrade. Upon this first basis is built another in the same form, somewhat less; upon this again are erected three others, which are proportionally less as they ascend, disposed in the manner of an amphitheatre, with a balustrade, as was already observed, inclosing each. Upon the uppermost of these there is a large room of state supported by four rows of varnished pillars, and covered with the abovementioned shining tiles; and here it is that the throne is placed. Here the Emperor, attended by a multitude of great officers,

officers, princes of the blood, and tributary kings, who fall prostrate before him on their faces, gives audience to ambassadors, who are conducted to the throne by a Vice-Roy. The throne is about three or four feet high, in form of an altar, and covered with fable, on which the Emperor sits cross-legged, after the manner of the Tartars.

*Eysbrand Ides*, Ambassador from the Czar of Muscovy, acquaints us, that when he had his audience of the Emperor of China, he was dressed in a dark-coloured damask waistcoat, over which he had a gown of deep-blue sattin faced with ermine, a string of coral about his neck, a cap faced with fable, with a red silk knot, and some peacock feathers hanging down behind: that he saw no gold or jewels about him; and that he had boots or buskins of black velvet. The same Ambassador tells us, that he was conducted to the Emperor by three Mandarines in their robes; that he had 50 horses allowed for him and his retinue; that having alighted at the gate of the outward palace, he passed through five courts, where he saw great numbers of Mandarines standing in  
their

their embroidered robes : that the Emperor being set upon his throne, he delivered his credentials from the Czar his master, and, after a short speech, was reconducted to his apartment in the same manner : that he was afterwards invited to an entertainment at court, when the Emperor came in with a guard of 12 halberdeers, richly dressed, and musick playing ; that, when he had mounted his throne, the guards sat down cross-legged beneath him, and the musick ceased ; that the Vice-Roy, the Emperor's uncle, and other ministers of state, stood on each side of the Emperor ; and that he the Ambassador was placed on the right side of the throne about four fathom distance. That the Vice-Roy having received the Emperor's commands upon his knees, brought the Ambassador two fathoms nearer ; and the Emperor having inquired after his Czarish Majesty's health, he ordered a table that was furnished with cold meat and fruits to be uncovered ; upon which the Ambassador, having a table provided for himself, was desired to eat. About 200 Lords of the court, who sat down on a carpet cross-legged, had a table furnished between each

two of them. The Emperor sent a goose, and several other dishes, from his own table to the Ambassador, and a gold cup with spirits. The Jesuit Missionaries, who had colleges there, were called in, and, kneeling before the throne, were ordered to ask the Ambassador questions about the length of his journey, and the kingdoms of Europe, who interpreted his answers to the Emperor. The Vice-Roy led the Ambassador to his place, where having sat a quarter of an hour, he was ordered to stand up; then the Emperor having saluted him, he retired. The Mandarines afterwards entertained him with a play. When he had his audience of leave, and the Emperor was seated on his throne, a herald called aloud to the Lords of the court to stand up, and bow to the earth; which they did three times; and at the same time the drums beat, the bells rung, and the musick played. The Ambassador being brought within three fathoms of the throne, was placed between two Tartar princes, while he made his compliments to the Emperor. As he returned, he observed that the Emperor's guards stood in the fourth court, clothed in red callico with

with large figures upon the cloth; and that they had little caps adorned with yellow feathers, these was the court-livery, and were armed with scymetars and launces. The Ambassador was conducted from the palace to his apartment, in one of the Emperor's chariots drawn by an elephant; twenty of which animals, which he had received in presents from foreign princes, being kept in stables near the palace.

Though the Chinese race of Emperors never appeared in public; yet the present Tartar prince shews himself to the people four times a month. And he visits the frontiers of Tartary once a year, attended by forty Tartar princes or lords. When he visits the provinces of China, he rides post, attended only by a few officers of state; and guards are placed along the roads he is to pass through for security of his person.

Agriculture is of such esteem in this empire, that some of the Emperors have thought it not unworthy of their royal care to promote it, and even to teach it to  
M<sup>r</sup> their

their subjects. The Emperor called *Ven* held the plough himself, and his Empress assisted in planting mulberry-trees, and kept a house for silk-worms in the palace, in order to set a good example to their subjects. All the cloaths the Emperor wore were of the Empress's own making; and a feast was at that time instituted, to the honour of agriculture, which is held annually about the vernal equinox, when the governors of the several towns and provinces assemble the peasants, and march before them in procession, with garlands, musick, streamers, and the instruments of agriculture carried before them.

Their histories inform us, that the Emperor *Hiacu* betook himself to husbandry in his old age, and plowed and sowed the ground himself for three years before his death, to set an example to his subjects; and sent persons skilled in agriculture into every part of his dominions, to instruct them how to improve the ground to the best advantage.

The Chinese ascribe the invention of the plough, and several instruments of agriculture, and the proper method of sowing wheat, rice, barley, and other grains, to  
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some of their Emperors; and books have been written by their princes upon the subject of tillage, the nature of different soils, and the manner proper for each, which serve as directions to the husbandmen at this day.

Horses, mules, camels, oxen, cows, buffaloes, hogs, deer, hare, and sheep, are in great plenty in China. The hogs, which are generally black, have hollow backs, and bellies that reach the ground; but their flesh is very fat and white. The sheep are like those of Turkey; they have large tails of several pounds weight; and their fleece is rather hair than wool. Geese, ducks, hens, and all kinds of poultry and wild fowl, are in no less plenty, and very cheap. In many places the people hatch the eggs in ovens and dung-hills.

No country abounds more in herbs and roots; pease, beans, and other pulse, which are the chief diet of the poorer sort of people, are reaped in great quantities. Tho' our English gardens excel them greatly for fine walks and variety of flowers, which the Chinese neglect as unprofitable; yet they excell us in the number and plenty

of those herbs, plants, and roots that are really useful.

In some provinces, where the ground lies high, and the soil is poor, they grow fine large trees fit for building and shipping. In other provinces, particularly towards the W. and N. They sow wheat, barley and pease only, which they exchange with the low watery countries for rice. The greatest part of the soil is so light, that they plow with a single buffalo or heifer; after the plough, the ground is cleaned of all noxious weeds; and if the field is designed for rice, they let down water from an adjacent canal upon it, till it becomes as soft as pap, and continue constantly to water it till the rice is almost ripe; then they stop the water, to let the grain dry, and often cut it down, and thresh it on the field where it grew. They have never less than two harvests of it in the year. And though no other thing than water is necessary for the growth of rice; yet they use dung of various sorts for the culture of other grains. They are such good economists of their ground, that there is not a ditch, hedge or  
tree



tree to be seen on any spot of their plowed grounds or fields.

Apples, pears, peaches, apricots, figs, grapes, walnuts, chefnuts, pomegranates, melons, oranges and olives, are in plenty, with many other European fruits. They have, besides, great variety which do not grow in Europe, such as, the *ketli*, as big as a chefnut, having a large stone, but a delicious and watery taste; the *louyen* or dragon's eye, of a globular shape, yellow colour, full of juice, which is cool and refreshing. They grow likewise the pineapple, *guavoes*, and cocoas, which they had originally brought from India. From hence came also those oranges the Portuguese called China *oranges*, brought by them to Europe under that name, of which they have now got great plenty in Portugal itself; but the most esteemed China orange, is little bigger than a large walnut. Lemons, citrons, and limes, are very common.

*Rattan* or Japan cane with which they make cordage, sugar-cane, ginger, mulberry-trees, China-root, rhubarb, ginseng-root, which is valued much for its sovereign virtues, cocoa-nut, and a sort of

pepper, are all very plenty in China. The cane called *Bamboo* grows sometimes as large as an ordinary tree, and thrives best in marshy ground. Though this cane is light, yet it is straight and tall, and is of great service in their houses, ships, boats, and other buildings.

The *Tallow-tree* is very remarkable: it is the height of a cherry-tree, the leaf shaped like a heart, and of a lively red colour: the fruit is inclosed in a rhind, divided into three segments, which, when ripe, opens of itself, and discloses three white kernels as large as those of our English nuts. These kernels have all the qualities of tallow, in smell, colour, and substance. The Chinese make their candles of it, which burn very well, but have an offensive smell, when burning.

*Tea* or *Tcha* is a plant peculiar to this country and to Japan. It is an ever-green, and commonly grows at the foot of mountains, and thrives best on a stony soil. Its root resembles that of a peach-tree, and its leaf that of a wild white rose. It generally grows about as high as a rose-bush, though some are higher and very thick-branched. Each plant is set about  
three

three feet from another, and the earth raised about the trunk. It seldom grows wild. The leaves are about an inch long, half an inch broad, serrated and terminate in a narrow point. The oldest leaves are white, brittle, and of a bitterish taste : the youngest, soft, smooth, reddish, transparent, and of a sweetish taste. The three sorts of tea brought to Europe are all from the same plant. The soil where it is planted, or the season of the year when it is gathered, is the true cause of that variety. *Bohea*, or *Voui*, so called from some mountains in the province of Tokien, where it grows, is the very first bud, gathered in the beginning of March, and dried in the shade. *Hyson*, *Imperial* or *Bing-tea*, is the second growth in April. *Singlo* or common *Green-tea*, is the last, which is gathered in May or June ; both these are dried in little pans over the fire. The tea-bushes are in the flower from October to January. The seed is ripe in September or October following ; but for one fresh seed fit for sowing, there are a hundred good for nothing. The seed vessels are tricapsular, each capsula containing a nut or seed ;

and though we see the vestige of several seeds, yet few come to perfection.

The principal manufacture in China, is silk, and which is esteemed the finest in the world. That which is wrought in the province of Nankin of Chekiang silk, is accounted best by the natives; but that of Quamtong is highly valued by foreigners. The most common sort of silk is called *Touantze*; it is like our satin, and either plain, or wrought with flowers and other figures. These figures are not raised, but made by the different colours and shades. The principal figure on their silks is the dragon, of which there are two sorts; one, called *Lom*, with five claws, and is only wrought in the Emperor's silks, as the Chinese say that this dragon was the imperial arms of *Fohi* the founder of the empire about 4000 years ago: the other dragon wrought in silk is called *Mata*, with four claws, and which every one is permitted to wear.

In summer the better sort wear a silk called *Cha* for their gowns, which is a sort of taffety, and is neither so closely wrought, nor has so fine a gloss as our European silks;

silks; yet is much more substantial. They have a sort of taffety besides, which, though it be very closely wrought, will not crease or cut, by a great deal of handling or pressing, and which they wash like linnen. It is sold by weight, and they make under-gowns, drawers, or linings of it.

They manufacture gold-tissue, plush, velvet, crapes, druggets, ferges and tam-mies. But though they have plenty of wool in several provinces, they make no cloth. They indeed make a kind of blanket or ruslet cloth, which is designed for studying-gowns in winter to the Chinese *literati*.

They have great plenty of cotton, of which they make several kinds of cloth. There grows a plant called *Co*, peculiar to China, and in Canton is called *Puttama*, of which they make a very fine stuff. I saw a silk at Canton called *Lo*, which exceeds any thing of the kind in the world: it is not only beautiful, durable, and washes, but will not take a crease in any way you can use it.

Porcelain or China is a very considerable branch of manufacture in this empire. In the province of *Quamsi* there are numberless

less quarries of a very tough white clay, or rather soft white stone. This hard clay being washed, and thereby separated from the earth with which it is mixed, is dried, and beat down to a very fine powder; which being made into a paste, they knead and bake it a long time. For this purpose they use a peculiar water brought from another province, as there is no water fit for it near the place where the clay is dug. The clay is impregnated with a salt which purifies and refines it. After the clay is sufficiently kneaded, they form the vessels in moulds, and expose them to the sun. They are taken in when the heat is excessive, because the vessels are ready to warp. They are dried, and painted by degrees, as they find the metal able to bear it. After this, they wash the vessels all over with a ley or varnish mixed with the same matter of which the vessels are made; which last operation gives them a fine lustre. The last part of the work is, to put the vessels in a furnace, heated by a gentle and uniform fire, lest the air should damage them; and when they are sufficiently hardened, they remove them by slow degrees from the furnace, so as to let them

them cool gradually. In short, it requires care, patience and caution, to execute this excellent manufacture. There are three kinds of china, distinguished by their colours. The first is *yellow*; and though it is coarser than the other two, yet being the imperial colour, is only used in the Emperor's court, and not allowed to other people. The second sort is *gray*, having a number of small irregular lines crossing each other; these are indeed the most beautiful, but very rarely brought to Europe. The last, and most common, is *white china*, which is painted with a variety of figures, and which our merchants buy up. It is valued by its fineness, whiteness, and fashionable shape and painting. The fineness is discovered by the transparency at the thinnest edges of the vessel. The whiteness must not be judged of by the outward coat or varnish, but by the clay or metal itself, which must be therefore examined.

The fine varnish with which the Chinese wash both their wooden and earthen utensils, is not a composition, as some have asserted, but a gum which distills from a tree. In the mass it looks like pitch; and  
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is mixed with more or less oil according to the nature of the work for which it is intended to be used. If the varnish is not often repeated on tables or chairs, it is so transparent, that you discern every vein of the wood through it; but if the varnishing is often repeated, it becomes a hard beautiful crust. When it is near dry, then is the time they embrace for painting with gold, silver, or other colours; and sometimes, after the painting is dried, they will go over with varnish once more, to give the finer lustre. This varnish not only beautifies, but preserves wood from wearing or decay.

Marriage is so honourable and of so much esteem among the Chinese, that most men marry by the time they are twenty years of age; an old bachelor being looked upon with the greatest contempt; and to have no children to mourn at their graves, is reckoned very unfortunate. As there is scarcely therefore an unmarried man to be found in China; and as the women are exceeding prolific, it is no great wonder that this empire is much more populous, than any other country in the known



known world; more especially as few of them travel to other parts, and are seldom taken off by war or pestilence. If mutual consent constitutes marriage, there is no such thing here: the parties never see one another till the bargain is concluded, which is done either by the parents, or by guardians or old matrons, who may properly enough be called *marriage-brokers*. And these matches are commonly made when the parties are mere children.

The girls are part of the father's riches, as the poorest man must purchase his wife, no fortune being ever given with one. And as wives are only obtained by purchase, men in low circumstances are obliged to content themselves with one a piece; and in this respect the poorer women of China have much the advantage of the richer. What would not a Chinese lady give to exchange her life with a cottager, so as to have a man to herself? For the men of fortune in China do not content themselves with one or two wives, nor even with twenty, but, if their circumstances permit, will have a numerous train of them in seraglio's or women-houses, where the wretched creatures are almost perpetually

ally confined, and scarcely allowed to breathe the fresh air. They must not, after entering their tyrant's door, either see or be seen by any other man but himself. On the other hand, the poorer women range about at liberty with feet of a natural size, without being made prisoners and cripples from their cradles, as the women of higher birth have the honour to be. She who bears the first child to a great man, has more respect paid her than the rest, though all the children inherit their Father's fortune alike; and till one of these wives has had a child, she is not admitted at table with her husband, mother, and the rest of the family, but must wait upon them as a servant. Next to a woman's being barren, the greatest scandal is to bear females; and if it happens that a woman brings forth three or four daughters successively without a son, she will expose or strangle them. If the parents happen to be poor or unfortunate, they look upon the murder of their children to be an act of piety, because they think that they deprive them of a being which they would not be able to support with any degree of comfort. This is

the reason so many children are daily exposed in the streets and highways of China, whose parents had so much tenderness remaining, that, notwithstanding the sanction of a prevailing custom, they might not see them die, or butcher them with their own hands. These exposed children are those to whom the Popish Missionaries so frequently glory in having administered baptism; and they tell us, that though they could not relieve them in this world, they procured for them a glorious reversion in the next \*.

The seraglio in the court of Peking contains a collection of the most beautiful virgins in the empire. These the Vice-Roys and Governors of the several provinces make presents of to the Emperor, who uses them indeed no better than his slaves; for they are so numerous, that many of them are hardly ever known by him.

The female sex are excluded from having any share in the civil government and councils. The Chinese, by way of derision, style Europe *The Ladies Empire*,

\* Their compassion fell infinitely short of the tender-hearted Samaritans mentioned in the Gospels.

from the information that women are sometimes invested with sovereign power in that quarter of the world.

As we have said, that every man here is married, and that the richer have ten, twelve, or as many more a-piece, a difficulty may occur to the reader, where women can be found equal to the men, since experience shews that the numbers of males and females born in this or any other country, one year with another, are nearly equal? To answer this question, it may be observed, that the poorer sort, who compose the greatest number in the empire, have each only one wife; that the men generally live single till they arrive at the age of twenty; and the women are marriageable at twelve: so that all the females betwixt twelve and twenty years of age, may serve to fill the seraglio's of the great.

It is a rule in China, that a man never marries one of the same name with himself. Degrees of kindred are little objection, especially on the mother's side.

There are feasting and rejoicing when the man takes home his bride, particularly a splendid cavalcade from the wife's father's  
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house

house, to the bridegroom's house, attended with drums, trumpets, streamers and colours flying. But the bride is shut up in a close chair, from the sight of the procession, and is never more to be profaned by the eyes of the multitude, or even of her own nearest male-relations. The marriage becomes irrevocable when the bride, or rather her parents in her name, have accepted the gold and silver bodkins, and other presents that the bridegroom sends suitable to her quality. In negotiating the marriage, a priest or conjurer is consulted, not only to foretell whether the marriage shall prove happy or unfortunate, but when the day and hour of consummation shall happen; and they do not fail to observe his directions.

When the bride arrives, the bridegroom stands at the gate or door of his house, richly dressed, to receive her, and he immediately unlocks the door of the sedan or chair with his own hand. At this first interview, both one and the other are often confounded at their disappointment, in finding themselves much deceived in the representations made by their agents. Yet there is no redress for the woman; she

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must submit, let her aversion be ever so great, if the man is willing to accept of her; but the intended husband, if he finds the woman not so agreeable as he expected, will return the bride that moment to her parents, and contentedly lose the purchase-money, rather than be troubled with one he apprehends might turn out a domestic plague; but if he once receives her, he is not allowed to divorce her, unless for adultery, impotency, leprosy, or the like.

Some of the fair-sex procure an article in their marriage-settlement, that they shall have liberty to entertain gallants; and in such case, the lovers resort as confidently to her apartments as her husband. But the Chinese generally hold this practice in such abhorrence, that the children of such women are disqualified to hold any place, or procure preferment in the state.

Some parents, when they apprehend that they shall not be in a condition to maintain their male-children, will castrate them, in order to provide for them as eunuchs in the Emperor's seraglio. They are called *Gehubden*; and no other are permitted to come near the women's apartment,

ment, or to attend in the innermost courts of the palace. Yea, so sacred are the women's apartments in general, that the husband's father is not permitted to enter them. And if the father would punish his son for any offence, which, by the law of China, he may do after marriage, if the son escapes into his wife's apartment, he is as safe as in a sanctuary: If daughters are not married in their father's life-time, their brethren are obliged by law to provide for them.

The women employ themselves in painting, embroidery and needle-work, but never meddle with trade or merchandize. In their retirement, they keep collections of birds, dogs, and other entertaining animals, to amuse them.

The Jesuits so greatly extol the piety of the female converts that they had profelyted here, that they tell us, if China should once embrace Christianity, all the female sex would be saved.

The established religion of China is Idolatry; but, of all the idolaters on the face of the earth, they have fallen into the fewest absurdities. They worship one Supreme

God, King of heaven and earth, or rather an Internal Mind, which they imagine animates both heaven and earth. Though they worship the first inventors of arts, some select mountains and rivers; yet they pay no adoration to vice and the other impure deities, which the Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans worshipped. There are at this day three remarkable sects in China. The first are the followers of *Li-Laokun*, who lived, as they say, 500 years before Christ. This *Li-Laokun* taught that God was corporal; and that he had many subordinate deities under his government. His disciples study magick, and pretend that they can make a drink which will give men immortality. The second sect of the learned are the disciples of the celebrated *Congfou* their countryman, who lived in the time of Artaxerxes, Nehemiah and Malachi, about 450 years before our Saviour, and is said to have died of grief, when he feared that he could not reform the world. He instructed the people in philosophy, and left behind him many admirable precepts of morality. His writings and precepts are still held in great esteem by all the people. He taught that God was a most pure and perfect principle, the fountain and essence



essence of all beings, and ordered temples and images to be dedicated to him. This Congfou is worshiped with the profoundest adoration. But the third sect, who worship the idol *Fo*, is much more numerous than the other two. This idol was transported from India about thirty two years after our Saviour. His priests, which are called the *Bonzes*, teach several moral precepts, and that there is a state of rewards and punishments after this life. They teach likewise, that it is not lawful to kill any living creature, or to drink wine; and do not forget to instruct them how much it is their duty and interest to entertain and nourish the priests themselves, to build temples and monasteries, and to perform the penances they enjoin; and, as they hold the doctrine of transmigration, they tell their followers, that, if they neglect these things, they shall suffer the greatest torment after death, and their souls shall inhabit some ugly reptile or beast of burden.

Besides these sects, there are some thousands of Mahomedan families in China, that religion having been tolerated there

near 600 years, and cultivated with great fervour by its votaries.

Their images are so numerous, that there is not a house, ship, or boat, but must have one consecrated by a priest. When they pray to their dumb deities, and do not find the prayer has had any desirable effect, they fall a reproaching the deity with most abusive and scurrilous epithets; but if they imagine the importunate request is granted by him, they new-paint, wash and gild the block, and fall down and adore him, that he may be still propitious. Many of them worship the sun, moon and other planets, the souls of great ancestors, or the authors of any useful invention, and have altars and images erected to them.

In every house you will find a table, on which the names of the father, grandfather and great-grandfather, of the family, are written; before which they burn incense, and prostrate themselves; and when the father of a family dies, the great-grandfather's name is taken away, and the name of the deceased added, to make up the number. Great men, whose circumstances will allow it, erect temples  
to

to the memory of their ancestors, where they offer an annual sacrifice. The Emperor sacrifices to seven of his ancestors, the tributary Kings to five, and the Mandarines to three.

The custom of burning incense and prostrating themselves before the tombs of their ancestors, is so much riveted on the minds of the people, that the Jesuits tell us, they could not reform their converts from the practice, and were obliged to wink at it, though their holy father the Pope has reprimanded them for it. •

As the Chinese are great observers of times, they place as much faith in their astrologers and fortune-tellers, as they do in their Gods.

The country abounds with idol temples, which are built without the gates of their cities, or in solitary places. Each temple has an order of priests, who attend to offer up hogs, goats, rice, wine and other provision to the deity of the place, and to give consultations to any person who comes thither to enquire of his good fortune. Near these temples are cloysters of religious devotees, who accommodate strangers with lodging and provisions, and who pretend to

have forsaken the pleasures, honours and riches of the world, as a kind of penance very acceptable to their deities.

Their temples are generally built of timber. They consist of an oblong and large room, covered with shining tyle, and paved with stone, which is filled with images and lamps that are kept burning day and night.

In the province of Pekin, there stands a temple 165 feet in height, in which there is the image of a virgin 106 feet high. The Emperor never appears in splendor but when he goes to the idol temple. In his procession, twenty four trumpets with golden coronets march in front, and as many drums; next twenty four men with gilded truncheons, followed by a hundred halberdeers: after these, an hundred sergeants at mace, who are followed by four hundred fine lanterns, and as many gilded flambeaus; then two hundred lances, followed by twenty four banners displaying the signs in the Zodiac, and fifty-six more with the constellations painted upon them: and lastly, twenty-four magnificent umbrellas, with a cupboard of gold-plate borne by the officers of the court. The  
Emperor

Emperor follows on horseback, most splendidly dressed; his horse is covered with gold and precious stones, and he himself is shaded by gilded umbrellas held over his head by the pages of honour. He is followed by the Princes of the blood, Vice-Roys, and ministers of state, in their robes: next come five hundred young gentlemen, attended by a thousand footmen, dressed in carnation silk, and worked with stars of gold and silver; after them is carried a golden chair, like a triumphal chariot, by thirty-six men, and another follows carried by 120 men, so large that it might serve for an apartment; then follow two chariots drawn by elephants, and two more by horses, each chariot guarded by fifty men; and lastly two thousand Mandarines, and as many officers of the army richly dressed, close the procession.

Some of the Popish Missionaries assert, that the Christian religion has spread so much in China by the favour of the late Emperor, that they have no less than two hundred chapels, which are well filled with converts; and that they have converted near 50,000, besides the children who are exposed by their parents in the streets, to whom, as before mentioned, they

they administer baptism before they expire. It is certain that these Christians are of the poorer sort, and consequently have but a small influence upon the bulk of the nation. The richer sort are offended at the most important doctrines of Christianity. They abhor the doctrine of a Trinity, and the Incarnation; and the Magistrates and richer merchants, are so given up to cheating and extortion, by which they acquire their wealth, that they cannot hear of making restitution. The parting with their wives is a formidable objection against embracing Christianity; and, indeed, to preach to the women, that it is their duty to live with one man as their lawful husband, when they know that their husbands have an absolute power to sell or transfer them from one to another as often as they first incline, seems to little purpose. As all the great men must be averse to Christianity, while nothing less than parting with their women will satisfy the Jesuits; so, on the other hand, was the influence of the ladies as great in that part of the world, as it is in England, the Jesuits would need no supernatural assistance to carry their point; for these would cordially promote a religion, which intitles each  
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of them to the sole and exclusive possession of her husband, and raises them to a level with the male sex. It is a great misfortune to the Jesuits, that they have scarcely any opportunity of approaching the fair sex. Whatever purity or self-denial the Jesuits may pretend, the Chinese understand human nature too well, to suffer the most mortified of them to converse intimately with their wives. And the conversion of the ladies is still the more difficult, as they understand only the language of the particular province where they reside; so that, although the Jesuits were admitted into their company, they could not easily be understood, as these fathers can only speak the court or Mandarin language. Besides, were all these difficulties removed, still they could have little hope of the conversion of the Chinese ladies, until the more than absolute dominion of their husbands over them, and the dread they are in of their resentment, were likewise removed.

All the people of fashion in China, cause their coffins to be provided in their life-time, and those of the higher rank  
• cause

cause their tombs to be built; and each family has a particular burying-place, to which the deceased of that family, though dying at a great distance, must be brought. The burying-places of the common people are without the city; they are generally buried promiscuously. By their law, the corpse of a person who had died in the country, must not be brought within the walls of the city, nor is any burying-place allowed within the walls. Their coffins, which are commonly varnished, and sometimes carved and gilded, are made of a durable wood, upwards of six inches in thickness.

When a man of fortune dies, his nearest relation informs all his friends of it: they convene, they wash and perfume the corpse, and dress the deceased in the best cloaths he used to wear. Then placing the dead body, thus dressed, in a chair, the wives first, then the children, and afterwards the relations and friends of the deceased, prostrate themselves before the corpse, and passionately bewail their loss. The third day the body is put into a coffin, covered with a piece of silk, and placed in a large room, which is hung about with white linen, and has an altar erected in the middle of it, with a picture or statue  
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of the deceased placed upon it. The relations are again introduced, bringing with them wax lights and incense, which they burn upon the altar, and again prostrate themselves before it. Meantime, all the sons of the deceased, clothed in linen, and girt about the middle with a cord, stand on one side of the coffin, in a mournful posture; while the mothers and the daughters stand on the other side, behind a curtain, lamenting in such strains as custom requires; the attending priests all the time singing mournful songs. During the time of keeping the corpse, there are tables well furnished every morning, and the priest is butler at night. A large sheet of paper is hung over the gate, expressing the name and quality, and giving a short detail of the life and great actions of the deceased. The corpse is sometimes thus kept for months, and all the sons of the deceased sleep about his coffin on mats or plaids. They taste neither flesh nor strong drink, nor come near their wives, all this time. Yea, so superstitious are they in performing the funeral rite, that their law prohibits the sons of the deceased to be at any entertainment, or to be concerned in any business for the space of three  
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three years after the father's death; and, though a man were possessed of the highest post in the government, he is obliged to leave it on such occasion for three years, and to retire to his own house, where it is esteemed an indecency to indulge himself in any pleasure, or even to be seen to laugh. The soldiers and Mandarines of the military order, are the only persons exempted from this lengthened mourning for a father.

Upon the day appointed for the burial of the corpse, the relations are assembled the third time, to follow the deceased to the place of interment. In the procession, first, several images of men, women, elephants, lions, and other animals, which are made of painted paper, in order to be burnt at the grave, are carried in the front. Next, figures of triumphal chariots, castles, and the like, are supported by men under them, attended by tables of rich perfumes and meats. After which follow the priests in their robes, with drums, musick, and bells. Then the coffin, carried by twenty or thirty men under a canopy, and followed by the sons on foot, leaning on crutches, as if they were scarcely able to support

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themselves.

themselves. After them come all the mothers and daughters carried in close chairs, covered with white silk or linnen; and though they cannot be seen, they deafen the company with their perpetual howling, and sometimes other women are hired to howl on such occasions.

.Mountains, and solitary places far from towns, are chosen for the seat of the tombs and sepulchres of the great, some of which are very magnificent. If a tomb is erected in a valley or plain, a vast heap of earth is accumulated over it, to the height of a mount. The tomb is an arched vault, about the size of an ordinary cottage, covered with Paris-plaster, so as no moisture can penetrate. A wide door opens in the entry to it, and two smaller ones on each side. In the vault an altar is erected, lights are placed, and the friends and relations prostrate themselves before it, with their faces to the ground. On this altar they pour out wine, offer meats, and burn incense, with the pictures of men and animals on gilded paper, which they imagine, are converted into the things they are made to represent, and that they will be of service to the dead in another state. And if  
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the deceased has held any considerable office, his virtues and illustrious actions, real or imaginary, are engraved on marble, and set up in the vault before the altar.

One chief reason of the dislike of the Chinese to all foreigners, is, because they leave the tombs of their ancestors to go to distant climes; but the Chinese have such veneration for the burial-place of their fathers, that neither curiosity nor the love of gain can allure them to travel into remote parts of the world. They even despise their own countrymen, who, from necessity, or on account of trade, go to Sunda, or other islands, to reside; because there they imagine they must leave their bones in unhallowed ground. It is little wonder therefore, that the Chinese are so seldom to be met with in very distant nations.

If a wife dies, the husband must mourn for one year. If a husband dies the wife must mourn three years; and it is accounted infamous for her to marry again.

Funeral pomp and ceremony is here so much regarded, that the Emperor himself, though he bestows no hereditary honours on any of his subjects while living, frequently confers honours and titles on such

as he thinks have deserved well, after their death. The present Emperor's father, I was told, had bestowed a great many honours on a favourite Popish Missionary, who had served him in quality of a Mandarin and president of the college of the *literati*. At his funeral there was an odd mixture of Popish and Pagan superstition. One of the Missionaries says, that the Emperor wrote with his own hand the following encomium upon him. "Whereas  
" Father Verbricht left Europe to come  
" into my dominions, and spent the best  
" part of his life in my service, and, during  
" all the time he presided over the  
" Mathematicians, his predictions never  
" failed, but agreed exactly with the motions  
" of the heavens; and as he was  
" ever faithful and indefatigable in his labours  
" till he had finished his course;  
" therefore I ordered my own physician to  
" attend him; and as soon as I knew  
" that a dead sleep had seized him, my  
" heart was wounded with inexpressible  
" grief. I have therefore ordered two  
" hundred golden crowns towards his funeral  
" charges; and it is my pleasure  
" that this declaration be published, to

“ testify the sincere affection I had for  
 “ Father Veibriest.”

The corpse of the Jesuit was laid in state after the Chinese manner. Two Mandarines were dispatched by the Emperor, with the above instrument. They kneeled before the coffin, and, with apparent weeping and lamentation, bowed their heads several times to the ground. Then they rose, and read the Emperor's declaration. The great Lords of the court, in imitation of the Emperor, wrote panegyrics upon the Missionary. These were written upon white satin, and hung round the room; but the Emperor's was wrote on a large piece of yellow satin, and hung near the corpse. The morning of the day appointed for the burial, the Emperor sent his father-in-law, to represent his person. A chief Mandarin, a gentleman of the bed-chamber, and five officers of the household, attended him. They all prostrated themselves before the corpse, and seemed to weep bitterly; for I am told not even the fair sex themselves have a greater command of their tears than the Chinese courtiers. In the front of the funeral procession, a trophy thirty feet high  
 was

was carried, on which the name and titles of honour of the Missionary was written in large golden letters. In the second order a large red cross, decorated with flags and streamers, was carried by two files of Christians, cloathed in white, each having a lighted taper in one hand, and a handkerchief in the other to receive his tears. Next followed the picture of the Virgin Mary in a large frame, supported by some Chinese converts; and after it, the image of St. Michael. The Emperor's encomium, carried like a military standard, and surrounded by a crowd of Christians, followed. After these came the coffin, varnished and gilt after the manner of the country, supported on a bier by sixty people. And, lastly, the Popish Missionaries, the Lords deputed from court, and a multitude of Mandarines, closed the procession. At the tomb the Missionaries read prayers, sprinkled the corpse with what they call holy water, and perfumed it with incense. After the corpse was let down into the vault, the Missionaries remained on their knees, to hear what the Emperor's father-in-law had to say to them. He declared to them, that Father Verbriest had been

so serviceable to the Emperor and the state, that he was deputed, with the other Lord's present, to make this public acknowledgment, that all the world might know the affection the Emperor had for him whilst he lived, and how much he bewailed his death. The Missionaries paid their respects to him, in return, by a handsome speech. The court of rites finding how acceptable it would be to the Emperor to confer some further marks of honour on this Missionary, they ordered seven hundred golden crowns to be laid out in adorning his tomb, and in engraving the Emperor's encomium on a marble stone.

The kingdom of *Corea*, and the islands of *Fernesja*, in lat. 22. N. about four or five hundred miles in circumference, and formerly in the possession of the Spaniards and Dutch, are now subject to the Emperor of China.

*Aynan* or *Haikam*, which lies to the south of China, in lat. 19. N. a plentiful country, abounding with mines of gold and silver, and a pearl fishery, is now also under the Chinese government.

*Macao*,



*Macao*, a little island near the coast of Quangtong, possessed by the Portuguese, and famous for a great trade formerly carried on by them, is likewise tributary to the Emp<sup>r</sup>or. The Portuguese had once the sovereignty of it, and still retain a form of government peculiar to their own people; but all their inland and port duties are now levied by Chinese Mandarines, and are subject to the Chinese law. The Portuguese had 1000 families in the city of Macao; but, by a long and unsuccessful war with the Timoreans, they are now reduced to about fifty. At present, in the whole island and forts, there is computed to be about two hundred laity, six hundred priests, and about one thousand five hundred women, who are in general very prolific.

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A SHORT  
ACCOUNT  
OF  
TARTARY.

**T**ARTARY extends from the frontiers of Muscovy to the eastern ocean, and from latit.  $42^{\circ}$  to  $55^{\circ}$  N. So that, when this large country is joined to China, to which it is now subject, that empire extends to 35 degrees, or 2100 miles in length, and about 1000 miles from East to West, in breadth; and consequently the circumference is about 7000 miles.

Tartary was once divided into a number of little kingdoms and principalities. The chief of each of these divisions still retain

tain the title of King, though they are indeed no more than vassals of the Emperor of China.

The western Tartars live in tents, have no settled residence, but move from place to place, for the conveniency of pasture. Herds of cattle and what they get in hunting, are their principal subsistence.

The eastern Tartars live in towns. These towns are neither so regular nor so numerous as those of China. Many of them are deserted for a warmer climate and more fertile soil, and now lie in ruins. For, on the conquest of China, the Emperor invited all his little Tartar clans to join him, and transplant their families to Peking, in order to establish his government, and secure his conquests; and since that time, all men of any spirit, who are not destitute of ambition, have resorted to the court of China, where they are sure of meeting with preferment: by which means their native country is abandoned, and left in a more wretched condition than before their unfortunate union with China. They had indeed the honour of being conquerors, and of setting a prince of their own nation upon the throne of China,

but are notwithstanding become a province of the kingdom they conquered. The manners and customs of the Chinese daily prevail among them, and their plan of government is very much adapted by the Emperor.

The Tartars who remain in their own country, and do not attend the court of Pekin, differ from the natives of China in many respects. They are neither so effeminate nor luxurious as their southern neighbours. They do not apply themselves to traffick; the Chinese cultivate commerce with eagerness. The Tartars delight in hunting and horsemanship, in which they spend the greatest part of their time; the Chinese have little taste for such robust exercises. The Tartars are ashamed to be seen in chairs, like the effeminate Chinese, and our soft Europeans. They allow the female sex every innocent liberty, and permit them to converse with the other sex occasionally, agreeable to the custom of all the northern nations; the Chinese hardly suffer their women to be seen at all from their cradle to their grave. It perhaps may be found a pretty just observation, that the bravest people have ever been

been least possessed of a spirit of jealousy, and have always kept the fair sex under least restraint. The valour of the Romans and their complaisance to the ladies, were equally remarkable.

Tartary is full of barren deserts and uncultivated fields. Here and there they sow some wheat and other grains; but flesh, especially such as is taken in hunting, is their principal food. The Emperor of China, who is of Tartar extraction, is so fond of hunting, that he goes once a-year into Tartary to enjoy that exercise. The Tartars furnish him annually some thousands of horses, not for service only, but for food; for the Chinese live on horse-flesh and mares' milk at certain seasons of the year.

The famous plant *Ginseng* abounds in this country; above 10,000 Tartars are employed every year to gather it for the use of the Emperor; and what they gather over the stipulated quantity, they are allowed to dispose of for their own advantage. Very rich furs are brought thence at particular seasons.

The Tartars are very ignorant of the arts and sciences, nor have they any regular

gular system of laws. The will of the Prince, is the rule of their obedience. Nor have they any books or records among them, to give light into their origin; though many conjectures and traditional fictions have been published in Europe concerning them.

Their religion is mere Paganism: The Emperor, being a Tartar, follows it. Nor does it differ from that of the Chinese, except that they worship a living man, instead of a dead one. They call him *Lama*, or the *Eternal Father*; they hold him in such veneration, and his authority is of such weight, that no King is crowned, till he has made rich presents to this pretended deity, and implored his blessing. He is shewn to the people in an obscure apartment of his palace illuminated with lamps. He sits cross-legged on a cushion raised above the ground, and dressed in their richest robes; all that approach him fall prostrate on the ground, and are allowed the honour to kiss his feet. His priests, that he may be thought immortal, when he dies, chuse one of their number, as like him in features, age and size as possible, to succeed in the godship. By  
this

this fraud, his votaries do not doubt of his living for ever. His residence is in *Barantola*, where he has a splendid court; and though he does not interfere with secular affairs, he may be properly enough stiled the Pope of Tartary: .

Since the empire of China has been governed by the Tartar race, the priests of this great *Lama*, who, from their deity, ~~are~~ called *Lamas*, serve as chaplains to the Tartar Nobility who reside at Peking. The Emperor, for reasons of state, shews equal respect to the *Lamas* of Tartary, and the *Bonzes* of China; though, as the Jesuits insinuate, he is no slave to their religion, sees through the folly of it, and laughs in private at their extravagant legends.

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A N  
A C C O U N T of the  
CITY OF CANTON,  
I N C H I N A;

And the P L A C E S adjacent.

**T**HE City of CANTON, or QUANG-TONG, lies in latit.  $23^{\circ} 30'$  N. the capital of the most southern province of China, called the province of Canton. It is situate upon the east side of the large river *Ta*, from the mouth of which it lies about fifty miles. It is defended towards the water by two high walls, and two strong water-castles built in the middle of the river *Ta*. On the land side, it is defended by a strong wall, and three forts.

The



Canton is the greatest port in China, and the only one frequented by Europeans. The city wall is about five miles in circumference, with very pleasant walks around it. On the east side is a large ditch close to the wall.

From the top of some adjacent hills, on which forts are built, you have a fine prospect of the country. It is beautifully interspersed with mountains, little hills, and valleys, all green; and these again pleasantly diversified with small towns, villages, high towers, temples, the seats of Mandarines and other great men, which are watered with delightful lakes, canals, and small branches from the river *Ta*; on which are numberless boats and jonks sailing different ways through the most fertile places of the country.

The wall is now very old. I saw two great breaches in it on the S. W. side. Though there are many ports in it for great guns, yet I never saw a dozen mounted at a time. The Chinese told me, however, that they had guns for them all, which were housed; and that these few that were mounted were for salutations, having no other use for them. •

The

The city is entered by seven iron-gates; and within-side of each there is a guard-house. No European is allowed to enter these, if known; I have myself been frequently expelled, after I had been a good way within the city, when they discovered that I was a stranger. The soldiers that keep guard are armed with spears, darts, swords, match-lock guns; but most of them with bows and arrows, which they still esteem more than any other warlike weapon.

The streets are very strait, but generally narrow, and paved with flag-stones.

There are many pretty buildings in the city, great numbers of triumphal arches, and temples well stocked with images.

The natives told me, that when the Tartars over-ran and conquered China, this was the last city they attacked; that they lay nine months before it; and lost 100,000 men in reducing it. During that long period, the city was in no distress for provisions, having free communication with the adjacent countries by the river *Ta*. The surrender of it at last was entirely owing to the pusillanimity of the governor. He made private articles with  
the

the Tartar general, and perfidiously opened two gates in the middle of the night, by which the Tartars entered, and made the city a theatre of horror and misery. The governor took this treacherous method, to escape the resentment of the barbarous enemy, who, while they murdered thousands, preserved him and his family:

The streets of Canton are so crowded, that it is difficult to walk in them; yet you will seldom see a woman of any fashion, unless by chance when coming out of their chairs. And, were it not that curiosity in the Chinese ladies, makes them sometimes peep at us, we should never get a glance at one of them.

Though there are no magnificent houses in Canton, most of them being built only one, and none more than two storeys; yet they take up a large extent of ground, many of them having square courts within their walls.

They have all such a regard to privacy, that no windows are made towards the streets, but in shops and places of public business. None of their windows look towards those of their neighbours. Within the

the gate or entry to each house, a skreen is placed, to prevent strangers from looking in upon the opening of the gate; and you enter the house either on the right or left-side of this middle skreen, where there are little alleys to the right and left, from whence you pass into the several courts, which are walled on all sides.

Their entertainments are held in a sort of hall at the entrance of their houses, which have no other ornament, besides a single order of painted columns which support the building. The roofs are open to the tiles, without any ceiling. In these they use no looking-glasses, hangings or fine chairs; and their beds, which are the principal ornaments of their house, are seldom seen by strangers, who are not permitted to go farther than the first great hall. The Chinese who kept shops, and with whom we had some dealings, were less reserved, and would frequently invite us to their houses with great freedom, as they observed it would be agreeable to us.

The furniture of the best houses I was in were, cabinets, tables, painted skreens, china, pictures, and pieces of white taffety upon

upon the walls, upon which was written. in Chinese characters, religious and moral sentences.

They have no chimneys; but in their stead, place a shallow iron pot filled with charcoal in the middle of the room in winter, which is ready to suffocate people who are not accustomed to it. They have a copper built in brick-work in their kitchen for boiling, much about the height of our English stoves.

The inside walls of their houses are never wainscotted nor painted, but are covered with thin white paper.

The windows are made of cane or rattan. In winter they cut oyster-shells into diamond-shape, and set them in wooden frames, which afford but a very dull light.

The shops of those that deal in silk are very neat, make a fine show, and are all in one place; for tradesmen, or dealers in one kind of goods, herd together in the same street. For this reason, you may hear the English sailors talking of the streets of Canton, as if they were speaking of London, or some other English city. The street where the china shops are, they call

*China-row*; the street where cloaths are sold, they call *Monmouth-street*; that narrow street where mens caps, shoes, &c. are sold, is well known by the name of *Mandarine cap-alley*; and a narrow passage close by the city-wall where lapidary and glass-work are sold, is called *Stone-cutters alley*; and so of many others. The shops have counters, drawers, and divisions, much like our own; and there are few of the merchants but have a person who can speak broken English or Portuguese. So that French, Dutch, and Danes, are obliged to speak either the one or the other when they traffick with them.

There are great numbers of market-places for fish, flesh, poultry, garden herbs, and all provisions. Every thing is sold cheap. Fishmongers keep their fishes in cisterns alive. Carp, and all other fish are here in variety and plenty, but have a muddy taste. I have seen the fishermen take great numbers of different fishes in the ditch on the East-side of the city-wall, where a multitude of small boats or sampans are continually plying. This ditch goes quite round the city, and some small canals run into it; and as it has a connection  
with

with the river *Ta*, it is of great advantage to the city.

I was very much surprised at first, to see dogs, cats, rats, frogs, &c. in their market-places for sale. But I soon found that they made no scruple of eating any sort of meat, and have as good an appetite for that which died in a ditch, as that which was killed by a butcher.

The dogs and cats were brought commonly alive in baskets, were mostly young and fat, and kept very clean.

The rats, some of which were of a monstrous size, were very fat, and generally hung up, with the skin upon them, upon nails at the posts of the market-place.

Frogs, which are the greatest dainty here, are sold very dear. They are black and lothsome to an European eye; but the Chinese say they have a very fine taste. The rats, they say eat well; and snake-broth has been in reputation there long before it was known to us. The frogs are strung upon a rod, in the same manner as we do fish in England.

In passing through some of their streets, I have almost been suffocated by the stench

of the houses on each side ; and particularly a street about a mile above the English factory, where there was nothing but cooks-shops. They had large hogs roasting whole, and numbers of dogs, cats, and rats on the spit, and the cooks themselves, with their utensils, had such a dirty appearance, that the sight and smell might almost satisfy even the keenest European appetite. They send about their victuals for sale with *Cowlies* or porters, as in the annexed plate.

The common people eat four times a-day ; and are such gluttons, that, if they are ever so much engaged in business, they will hastily leave it, and run to victuals at the usual hour. I have seen one Chinese fellow eat twelve pint basons of rice at one meal. Rice they eat greedily, and cram it down with their chop-sticks ; which would probably choke them, if they did not wash it down every now and then with a cup of *Samsbue* standing by them.

In the streets of Canton, we often meet with blind beggars, of both sexes, a disease which some imagine is the consequence of their living so much on rice ; but I rather think it may be occasioned by the hot winds







winds that blow here at certain seasons. They are indeed miserable objects, and commonly go naked, excepting a trouser or cloth over their middle. Their skins are black as Malays, and are sometimes so parched, spotted, and full of running sores and ulcers, that they really stink alive. They go sometimes in companies, and are sure to plague and follow the Europeans; because from one of them they will get more at one time than from a dozen of their own countrymen. They hold out to you a coarse china basin. I was generally obliged to give them something to get rid of them; for till you do, they will not leave you; and if you are not on your guard, they will even run against you with their dirty hands and diseased bodies, to avoid which, I have often been obliged to run into shops. The common sailors usually gave them pieces of tin, both to save their money, and to avoid coming into contact with these most wretched creatures. The Chinese themselves are very uncharitable. I never saw them give money to a beggar; but they generally put them off with a small handful of rice.

On my first arrival at Canton, and for four months after, I found it prodigiously hot, and was as much plagued with musketoes here as in Batavia. The Chinese were in their thinnest habit, and never without a fan. The Europeans at this time generally go in their waistcoats, and a white callicoe-cap, and sometimes with a Chinese fan. For my own part, I could never get a dress light enough; and, during my stay there, had always my fan in my hand; by which means, I at length arrived at as great perfection in the use of it, as any fine lady in England.

When I had a mind for a walk in the country, or round the walls of Canton, I always carried with me my *Kito-sol* or *Umbrella* as well as my fan, otherwise I should have been burnt alive. Sometimes indeed it proved very cumbersome, especially when I had an engagement with the mob, who frequently would get about me, and be very rude. Sometimes ten or twelve of us, when we have been walking in the country for a few miles, though armed with good sticks, have been set upon by the mob, who threw stones at us, calling out, *Aki-o*, *Quy-foy*, *Quy-lo*, and other diminutive

minutive names. Till they provoked us to pursue them; and then they would take to their heels, and run into the next houses for shelter. But whenever we went on, they would follow us again, and be as rude as ever. This circumstance often deprived us of that pleasure and satisfaction we might have had in walking through this pleasant country. The best method to prevent this inconvenience is to have some Chinese gentlemen with you, to keep the rabble in awe; or else to hire a chair, which you may have at 2 mace or 1 s. 3 d. Sterl. to carry you round the whole city of Canton. These, though I sometimes used, yet it was more for curiosity than pleasure; for, in walking, I had more time to take an accurate survey of the place.

There are a great many private walks about the skirts of the town, where those of the better sort have their houses, which are very little frequented by Europeans, whose business lies chiefly in the trading part of the city, where there is only shops and warehouses. Few China men keep their families in the house where they do business, but either in the city, in the

more remote suburbs, or farther up in the country.

As it is natural for Europeans to slip no opportunity of seeing the fair sex ; and as the women there are kept so very private, that many of us have made several voyages thither, without having seen a woman above the lowest rank ; we were now and then induced, on proper occasions, to pry into the most retired and unfrequented places, where we imagined the females might be less upon their guard, as few Europeans went thereabouts to disturb them. In these rambles, our curiosity was seldom entirely disappointed. Sometimes we would pop in upon a parcel of young boys and girls, attended by their nurses ; who were all so affrighted at the sight of a *Fanquy*, as they called us, that they would scream aloud, run into their houses, and, by the noise, alarm the whole street. As I have observed already, that they have no windows to the street, and have a screen of split cane before the door of each house, we could not see them, though they could easily see us through that lattice: we could only very indistinctly,

tinctly, perceive them peeping at us, and pointing to us, within the screen.

Now and then, on turning a corner, or entering a private street, all of a sudden we found ourselves in the midst of a company of young ladies conversing or playing together; which immediately set them all a screaming, and made them run for shelter into their several apartments, as if the devil himself had been chasing them.

These accidental opportunities made us very happy; for we frequently saw some charming creatures, surpassing all description, and whose beauty, it would appear, most Europeans who have been here, are entirely ignorant of. Indeed we could only be happy in the glance of one or two such in a street; for the screaming of one of them caught without doors immediately alarmed the rest of the ladies, and baffled our curiosity.

Sometimes indeed, we met them at a considerable distance from their houses; and as their feet is so little, that they cannot walk or run, but rather trip or hobble along, and are often obliged to assist themselves by laying hold of the wall as they move along, this gave us an opportunity

tunity to gaze upon them attentively, on these occasions. They seemed so affrighted, and walked so awkwardly, that I was fain to retire, lest I should have made them stumble and fall, for which I should certainly have been *bamboo'd*. A punishment which I have already described.

The complexion of the ladies is exceeding fair, their hair of the finest black, dressed up with gold and silver bodkins, adorned with flowers. Their shape is exquisitely fine, and their dress the most becoming, natural, easy and splendid of any I ever saw.

Before we left Canton, they were so familiarized to our visits, that the young boys would frequently come or were sent out to salute us; but if we offered to approach the houses where their mothers or nurses waited their return, they presently run from us, and shut the door.

I was much plagued, in all my rambles, with the barking of dogs in the streets, which the Chinese keep in great numbers, not only for use and amusement, but for food.

Though I had been in Paris, London, Amsterdam, &c. I never saw any thing  
like



like the crowds of people that attend the trading streets of Canton. I often thought that they were going to walk over one another. It is reckoned that there is in the city and suburbs 1,200,000 people; and you will scarce find a day in a whole year, but there are 5000 trading vessels lying before the city. The province of Canton pays yearly to the Emperor, 1,200,000 peculs of rice and 20,000 peculs of salt. The military in this province are 80,000; and 32,000 peculs of rice and 8000 peculs of salt are served out to them. The rest is sold out at six mace a pecul\*, which may amount to 446,000 *taels*, each *tael* being 6 s. 8 d. Sterl. This sum is appropriated towards payment of the military expence, which amounts to a million of *taels* yearly. The customs on merchandize and the poll-money, which amount to an incredible sum, are levied by a book of rates, and paid into the treasury of the province, which is governed by a *Tsongou* or Vice-Roy, who has his palace in the city; under him are all the *Mandarines* or ma-

\* A pecul is 133 pound weight. A mace is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  d. Sterl.

gistrates,

gistrates, and *Teylocks* or governors of forts.

Few days pass in Canton but there are processions in the streets. When a Mandarin of note passes in the street, or in the highway, he moves in great state, either on horseback, or in a large chair, carried by five or six men. If he is a Tartar, or Mandarin of war, he is on horseback; if a Chinese, and of the civil order, he is carried in a chair. Several flags are carried before them, and large lacquered peels, painted black and red, with large golden characters expressing their titles and dignities. Close to the Mandarin are several men carrying magnificent umbrellas, to keep off the light of the sun. In the front are a number of men, with high-crowned hats, with two large pheasant feathers in each, who make a hideous noise, crying incessantly *Ho-ot*, to warn every one to go off the streets, or stand aside, till the Mandarin pass by. Next to them are fellows with small chains in their hand, ready to throw over any body's head, and to drag them by the neck, that do not obey the call, and stand aside till the Mandarin pass by. After these a  
number

number of executioners follow, with ensigns of punishment in their hands, such as sword, ax, &c. wearing caps like a sugar-loaf. Several of them have large pieces of lacquered wood, painted black, which they dragg after them, and with which they *bamboo* or *bastinado* a delinquent. The criminal is thrown on his face, and the bamboo-men give him as many blows upon the buttocks as his worship the Mandarin shall be pleased to order.

A well known writer relates a comical adventure that happened between a mandarine and an English sailor, which, because of its singularity, I shall briefly repeat. A Mandarin in his chair, attended by his retinue, met an English sailor with a keg of arrack on his shoulder. Every body went off the street but the jolly tar, who had been just before tasting the arrack. One of the retinue gave him a box in the ear, and had almost brought him to the ground ~~keg~~ and all. The sailor damn'd him for a son of a wh—re, and returned the aggressor his box on the ear. But he was soon overpowered. The Mandarin having observed what had  
3 passed,

*passed, ordered them to do him no harm, till he should send for the English linguist. The Mandarin told the linguist what had happened, and bid him ask the sailor, why he had affronted him? The honest tar swore, that he had been affronted by the Mandarin, in allowing his servants to beat him when he was walking civilly on the street, and swore he would box the Mandarin or any one of his gang, for an old Spanish dollar; and at the same time put his hand into his pocket, and pulled out one. The Mandarin ordered the linguist to tell him *verbatim* what he said, and why he pulled out his money. When he was told all, the Mandarin was ready to fall off his chair with laughing. He asked if the sailor would stand to his challenge; and he swore he would. The Mandarin had a Tartar in his retinue, a lusty man, who was famous for boxing, and had gained many prizes at it. He called for him to try his skill on the poor tar, who was low of stature, but well set. The Tartar promised an easy conquest; he used to combat, by kicking high at the belly of his antagonist. At the first onset, the sailor caught him by the foot, and*

and laid him on his back. The Tartar rose, ashamed at the sudden foil, and made a furious onset; but Jack tripped up his heels a second time. The Tartar then desired to have a fair turn of boxing, without tripping; which Jack agreed to. The latter knew his business so well, that in a trice he battered the face and breast of the Tartar in such manner with his head, that he was forced to yield to old England. The Mandarin was so well pleased with the bravery and dexterity of the English tar, that he made him a present of ten *taels* of silver.

. The English Factories are situate in one of the best streets in town. It is very large, has a number of courts, halls and warehouses, with convenient rooms for lodging a great number of people. One large gate opens to the street, and another to the water, where our boats load and unload. At each gate a centinel is kept day and night. There is also a petty officer appointed, to see the centinels duly relieved, and the porters or *cowlies* do their duty; to take an account of all goods that come into, or go out of the factory; to prepare rooms for the officers and people, when they come to reside some little  
time

time in the factory; to entertain the officers and men; and, in a word, to see that every thing is kept in order.

All the officers and men are allowed a certain time to reside and do business in Canton, according to their station, which they do by turns. In the factory, while I was there, I have seen sixty people entertained at once. As we were in all eight ships from England, four ships companies were in the largest factory, three in another; and one company in a smaller one.

Our porter business was all performed by Chinese *coolies*, whom we hired for a small matter, and most of whom spoke a little English; which we found very convenient. We had likewise several Chinese cooks to assist our own, who, as they had been long employed by the English ships, and could speak the English language pretty well, dressed our victuals after the English manner, as well and as expeditiously as our own cooks.

Every officer belonging to the company's ships has his particular room or apartment in the factory, where they deposit the goods they purchase till they are shipped. And, for the greater ease and  
conveniency,

conveniency, they employ Chinese servants, to clean the rooms, make the beds, go of errands, and to do other menial offices, while they remain in the factory. Their wages are commonly two *tails* a month. But great care should be taken that they be well recommended for honesty by some reputable Chinese merchants; otherwise they may soon hurt you by stealing, to which they are very much addicted. Sometimes the petty merchants will offer their sons to you for servants, in order to be taught the English language, and to qualify them for carrying on trade with the Europeans, in which they find their account.

Every morning we were attended with a levee of Chinese merchants, brokers and tradesmen, inquiring if we wanted any thing in their way. On these occasions, they are exceeding complaisant, are sure to give you particular directions to their houses, to extol their goods, and invite you to tea with them, of which they are very liberal. When you visit them, they give you samples of such goods as they have to dispose of, that you may carry them to the factory, and shew them to

Q

your

your friends. I have known some of the common sailors go about, in order to procure samples of tea, rhubarb, and other goods, till they had ingrossed a good quantity, and yet not purchase a sixpenny-worth from any one.

The barbers that attend the factory, shave after the English fashion, with short razors or sharp knives. But those who dress the Chinese, go about the streets, with a bundle of razors, scizars, combs, brushes, pomatum, tooth-pickers, ear-pickers, corn and nail cutters, and other such instruments, upon their shoulder; and, as they walk, make such a tinkling noise with an iron instrument, as those fellows do who have a show in a box for the entertainment of children in London. The operation of a Chinese barber, which he performs every morning, is very tedious, in cleaning and plating the hair, and in shampooing his customers.

Shampooing is an operation not known in Europe, and is peculiar to the Chinese, which I had once the curiosity to go through, and for which I paid but a trifle. However, had I not seen several China merchants shampooed before me, I should have



have been very apprehensive of danger, even at the sight of all the different instruments that were arranged in proper order on the table before the operator began. He first placed me in a large chair; then began to beat with both his hands very fast upon all parts of my body. He next stretched out my arms and legs, and gave them several sudden pulls that racked my joints; then got my arm upon his shoulder, and hauled me sideways a good way over the chair; and as suddenly gave my head a twitch or jerk round, that I thought he should have put my neck out of joint. Next he beat with the ends of his fingers very softly, but very quickly, all over my head, body and legs, every now and then cracking his fingers, with an air: then he stroaked up my ears, temples and eye-lashes; and again racked my joints. After he had gone through this process, he proceeded with his instruments to scrape, pick and syringe my ears, every now and then tinkling with an instrument close to my ears. The next thing was my eyes; into which I patiently suffered several small instruments to be thrust, and turned about; by which

Q. 2                      operation,

operation, he brought away half a tea-cupful of hot, waterish stuff. This was not only the most painful, but the most dangerous part of the whole operation, which made me afraid to make the least motion with my head, lest I should have suffered more; so I sat with resolute patience, till he pulled out these instruments, and was about to use others to my eyes; but I had already suffered so much, that I would not permit him to meddle with them any farther. He next proceeded to scraping, paring and cleaning the nails of my fingers and toes, and then to cutting my corns. I only wanted to have had a lock of hair plaited, to complete the operation. But, after he had spent half an hour with me, it ended here, for which I gave him to the value of a penny. He departed well satisfied, and afterwards called several mornings. But I would never undergo the operation; for he had hurt my eyes so much, that my sight was somewhat impaired for a long while after.

The company's agent at Canton usually agrees with a *Compradore* or Suttler, to furnish the factory with victuals, beds, cloaths,

cloaths, and other conveniencies, for which he is paid every month; this futtler keeps a number of servants who are employed in carrying such things as are called for to the gentlemen's apartments.

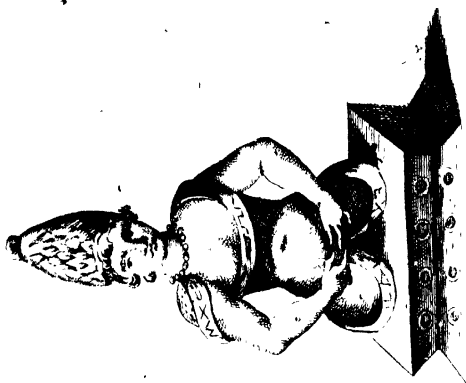
All our fresh water was brought us from springs three or four miles up the country by Chinese *coolies* or porters.

The temples and places of public worship are the most magnificent buildings in Canton. They are well stocked with images. The people pay profound adoration to them, by falling down on their knees before them, wringing their hands, and beating their foreheads against the ground. These temples, or *Joss-houses*, as they are commonly called, are generally one storey high, and are very numerous. They are decorated with a great number of artificial flowers, embroidered hangings, curtains, and fringes. One of them, situated in the skirt of the N. E. side of the suburbs, makes a splendid appearance. It is four storeys high, has a fine cupola, with many out-houses and galleries. A Chinese merchant called *Tingua*, who shewed me the rarities of the

town, told me that this grand edifice was formerly a palace belonging to the *Wang-tai* or King of the province of Canton, before the Tartars conquered China, and who was then an independent prince. Before the principal gate of the temple, two large images, one on each side, were placed. Each of them was about twelve foot high, with spears and launces in their hands, somewhat resembling those in Guildhall. This gate led us into a fine large paved court, and we entered the temple, which fronted it, by a few stone steps. The lower part of the temple is built with fine hewn stone, but the upper part is all of timber. My Chinese friend went round to the backside of the temple, into a small apartment, where some of the priests were sitting; and, on asking the favour of seeing it, they seemed very complaisant, and fond of our visit. We went first into the lower hall, where we saw images of all sizes, and, as they told us, of different dignities, all finely gilded, and kept exceedingly clean by the priests. The lesser images were placed in corners of the wall, and one of larger size in the middle of the hall. This large god who  
is



*Chinese Idols*



is placed in the centre, sits in a lazy posture, with his heels drawn up to his buttocks, almost naked, particularly his breast and belly, and leaning on a large cushion. He is ten times larger than an ordinary man, very corpulent, of a merry countenance, and gilt all over. I was next conducted up stairs, where we saw a great many images of men and women who had been deified for their brave and virtuous actions. Though my Chinese companion could speak English better than any merchant in Canton; yet he spoke it so imperfectly, especially about theological or ecclesiastical matters, that I got very little information; for the priests knew no other language than that of their own country. The rooms of this cathedral are large and spacious, but very old and very much out of repair, which confirms the above information, that it was originally a King's palace.

This temple is surrounded with canals and gardens; but, for want of proper care, they are stagnated, overgrown with weeds, and ruinous.

I was next carried up into the cupola, where I had a delightful prospect of all the

country around; but alas! for want of the language, I could obtain but small information from them about the objects in view; and was therefore obliged to be contented with the bare prospect, which was indeed very agreeable.

The heads of the temple-priests are shaven quite bare; for they wear no lock of hair behind, as the laity do. They are likewise distinguished from the laity, by the wideness of the sleeves of their upper gown, its colour, and by their caps and particular badges.

They invited us to tea, and to eat sweet-meats with them. After which, and exchanging a great many compliments, I gave them to the value of two shillings Sterl. which my friend told me was expected from me, before I went away. The priests pulled me back, and led me into one of the large houses that are built round the temple. In these houses are a great many cells or apartments for the priests, novices, &c. and large halls with long tables, which I suppose they use as refectories. In this house they shewed me a curious image of a famous saint of their order, who was placed in a nich of the wall,



wall, sitting on a chair, and dressed in the sacerdotal habit. Every muscle, vein and lineament, was so nicely carved in this image, and the dress so natural, that, at first sight, I imagined it was a living man; but much more so, as I began to move towards him, when he moved his head and hands towards me, as if to salute me. I started a little backward, and viewing the image more narrowly, and approaching by a slow pace, I discovered that it made this motion only when I trode upon certain parts of the floor; with which it had a communication, by springs. On the outside walls, are cut several English, French and Dutch names, by which I could learn that this building had been visited often by Europeans.

On the 30th October O. S. being the birth-day of his Majesty George II. a great number of us got up to the cupola of this temple, to see the English ships fire at Wampo, which is near fifteen miles distant. It is remarkable, that, though we saw the ships, and the smoke of the guns, very distinctly, yet we heard no report; though they were heard well enough at  
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the Factory, perhaps, because it stood close upon the side of the river.

This large temple is seldom used as a place of public devotion, except on extraordinary emergencies. Nor do I think that the Chinese have any fixed times of public worship, but only as occasion offers, as after any remarkable escape, on the arrival of their jonks from foreign parts, and the like. On this last occasion, I have often observed great processions made at the expence of the parties concerned. They went to a temple, and paid their devotion to the idol-god, by offering up large hogs, kids, goats, &c. dressed whole. I have seen them burn sandal and other sweet-smelling woods, with sweet-meats of different sorts, into the ashes of which they sprinkled water, by which the whole temple was perfumed. These sacrifices and oblations are sometimes performed in the night. After the ceremony is over, and the sacrifices have stood a limited time before the idol, all the victuals are consigned to the priests, who, on these occasions, are dressed in scarlet robes embroidered with gold, and perform a number of ceremonies.

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There was a small temple almost opposite the door of our Factory, where I frequently resorted. I have seen the priest in it use two bells and two drums in the exercise of their devotion. On the wall was exhibited a representation of hell, much in the same way as it is in some Popish paintings. Devils are represented tormenting those (as I suppose the Chinese priests would have it) that do not follow their idolatry. Perhaps they imagine, that these figures, and the comments made by the priests upon them, may serve to frighten the common people to obedience, as that of the inquisition in Spain and other Popish countries does.

One night, I observed this temple illuminated with candles, lamps, and magnificent lanthorns. Numbers of musicians were playing without doors upon various musical instruments; many of the nobility and gentry within doors were making oblations to the idols; and the priests, dressed in their richest robes, were assisting the devotees in their adorations. Two classes of priests stood opposite each other, on each side the great idol, with an instrument in their hands, with which they alternately

alternately made a harsh and irregular noise, and repeated some certain forms of prayer, which some of the Chinese people told me no body understood but themselves. Then, one of them, who seemed to be somewhat superior to the rest, both from his age and attire, went round them several times, carrying a cup of clear liquor in one hand, and a white rod in the other, all the time repeating something to himself, and using a great many postures and gestures with the rod, and seemed to me as if he had been invoking some spiritual being, fixing his eyes often on the ceiling of the house. After near half an hour had been spent in that manner, he came at last between the two files of priests, with his face to the idol, and bowed three times with his head, then kneeled, and beat his head three times upon the floor; after which, he got up, and bowing again three times very low, he went towards the idol, and sprinkled water upon some hot ashes that were standing in a thick China bowl before it, and delivered his rod to one of the men that attended him. From this apartment of the temple, they all went, one after another, into another hall adjoining;

adjoining; where they repeated the same ceremonies just before mentioned. This ended the devotion for that night. The devotees returned to their houses in great state, leaving the priests to feast upon the offerings. Some of the gentlemen who had gone along with me, afforded them some laughter, by attempting, after the ceremony was over, to play upon some of the instruments of musick, of which they were quite ignorant.

I was one day in this temple, when, in the middle of the devotion, I was accosted by a Chinese, almost naked, who, whispering in my ear, asked, if I wanted a wh—e. I was far from being willing to trust myself with such a shabby fellow, who, under pretence of standing pimp on such an occasion, might have carried me to some out of the way place, robbed me, and sent me home to the Factory with broken bones. Two of my companions, who were less fearful, accepted the rascal's invitation; I wished them a good voyage, and saw no more of them, till we met at night at supper in the Factory, when they gave the following account of that day's adventure.

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This fellow led them through such a number of alleys, lanes, turnings and windings, that they began to have some suspicion of his having a design to rob them, or even to do worse. They then inclined much to turn back. But they had already advanced so far, that they were quite ignorant whereabouts they were, and judged it most prudent to jog on after him, in silence, till they should see the issue. The fellow, discerning by their countenance that they were intimidated, endeavoured to encourage them, by expatiating on the beauty of the Chinese women, the handfomencis of their shape, and the smallness of their feet. Though his eloquence was very insipid to them, who were all the while in some degree of terror, lest he might have his accomplices ready to assist him to assassinate them; yet they were prudent enough, not to seem to him to dislike, but rather to be fond of his descriptions, and to listen to them with attention. After they had travelled between three and four miles in this doubtful manner, without seeing one street or lane they had ever trode before, they, to their great joy, came at last to the water-side,

side, from which they could easily find their way home to the Factory, and, as it was a public road, they imagined, in case of an attack, assistance might be got. This somewhat relieved their spirits, and gave them more confidence in their conductor. At this place, which was about four miles up the river from the Factory, several small boats were lying. The pimp bargained with one of them, probably belonging to his own gang, to scull them to the place he designed. They all embarked in the sight of a number of people on the shore. The waterman covered the passengers over with split bamboo and cajan leaves, in order to conceal them from the sight of any of the Mandarines, who are appointed to traverse the river, to keep order, and punish offenders. Had they been discovered, all the crew would certainly have been bamboosed. Though the passengers were peeping, every now and then, through the little chinks in the tilt, yet they said, it was impossible for them to see any thing distinctly, nor did they know whether they were carried up or down the river. In about an hour, they observed the sam-  
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pan or boat stand still ; and by the noise of talking, could observe themselves surrounded by a number of other boats full of people. As they had been sculling a long while, they began to judge that they were carried a great distance from the factory, and feared that their danger was now greater than before. At this juncture they had a good mind to discover themselves ; but then they were afraid, that, if they did, they would all be seized, and bamboozed. They frequently called out to *Jack*, (for so the pimp was named) ; but he answered not a word for some time. At last Jack came creeping in at one end of the tilt, and asked, *Carei grandi bôlâ, pickenini bôlâ ?* What size of a wh—e they wanted ? The one answered, *Grandi*, the other, *Pickenini*. Jack desired them to lie still, and keep silence a little time. So away he went. By Jack's going out and coming in, they learned that they were amidst a number of large sampans, and that their small boat was made fast to one of them. In a little space Jack returns, and creeps in under the tilt with two young girls along with him, the one younger and more slender than the other, They



They were both very neatly dressed, and, in their opinion, the eldest was not above fourteen years of age. One of the gentlemen lost his courage, so that his mistress went off, and left him; while the other was much enamoured with his little lady, who used all the bewitching tricks that are practised by these kind of women. Jack observed his fondness, and was determined to improve the opportunity to his own advantage, and would not leave the pair till he made a bargain; which the enamoured gentleman agreed to. The girl received the money, called for her companion, and delivered it to her. There was one alloy upon the long-wished-for enjoyment, namely, the other gentleman's being only a spectator, and filling up the very little room they had in the boat. But it seems this obstacle was got over. The girls left the boat, and Jack was called for to smuggle them home again; but both Jack and the watermen had left the boat without any design to return. In this manner they continued for some time, till at last two large ill-looking fellows came aboard, who put on a surly countenance, demanded money,

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and threatened to use violence if they did not instantly comply. Neither of my friends were cowards ; and as they could not help being chagrined at this unexpected treatment, they were determined, if possible, not to be imposed upon by these rascals. In order to see whereabouts they were, they uncovered themselves, and found that they were in the midst of some hundreds of large boats, about four miles below the Factory. The two fellows now went to the stern, and began to scull them further down the river, upon which they forced the oars from them, and sculled up the river. All this afforded sport to thousands of Chinese people, who were standing in their boats around them, exclaiming in their own language, and laughing aloud. At last the fellows began to strike them ; which was soon returned with double fury. During the scuffle, the boat made no other way, than what was occasioned by the tide. At length, an old man, in a small sampan, going up the river, who could speak a little Portuguese, came alongside of them. The two gentlemen offered him a little money to carry them to any of the English factories. He agreed

agreed to scull them directly to their own, which was the highest up the river but one, for a *mace*\*. They jumped aboard of his little boat, and being favoured by the tide, they soon arrived at the Factory, in high spirits, that they had got so easily clear of so dangerous an adventure.

I must not omit one material observation with regard to the priests and clergy of China, namely, that they are in no great esteem among the people. They are generally of very low extraction; their only study is the numerous readings of their theology; and, as they are excluded from conversation with men of letters, are generally very ignorant of the world. All this contributes to render them contemptible to the Chinese laity, who are generally people of ingenuity and politeness. The priests are almost all very poor, and obliged to celibacy while they continue in orders, of which they are at liberty to divest themselves at pleasure. But if they are guilty of fornication, or any enormous crime, while they are in order, they must expiate it with their lives. The high

\* About 7½ d. Sterling.

priest *Chiam* is the only one excepted. He is allowed to marry, because the high priesthood in China must be continued in one family, and he is in such repute, that he is always kept near the Emperor's person.

None of any figure or fortune incline to have their children consecrated to serve at the altar: so that the priests are reduced to purchase children from such parents as are obliged from necessity to sell them; and these they call *Novices*, and educate them in the sacerdotal legends and services.

I have seen multitudes of Armenians at Canton; and I am much mistaken if there was not many Jews among them. They flocked always together, and here, as every where in Europe, they distinguished themselves from the people of China. Their beards, features, and complexion, confirmed my conjecture. I sometimes asked my Chinese acquaintances, what they were: they gave me many answers in broken and mixed dialect of English and Portuguese, which I could not understand. One of them told me, pointing at one of them, *He no cari China man's Joss, kap oter Joss,*  
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or, in better English, that man does not worship our god, but has another god.

It is a common thing for the Chinese to act a play before their idols, after their worship is over. I have seen several acted in different Joss-houses, and every body is welcome to see them gratis. Sometimes these smaller temples are so crowded by the poorer sort of people among the Chinese, that an European can scarcely get in. In summer the people are mostly naked; and, as they stand closely together the whole time, there is such heat, sweat, and stench, that an European cannot set his nose within doors.

I have also frequently seen plays acted upon open scaffolds erected in the public streets of Canton; and those in half a dozen streets at a time. Their actors are richly dressed, and have a large stock of dresses and military arms and trinkets.

Their costly dresses, &c. are kept in square-chests. In the temples they have dressing-rooms; on each side the stages they have screens. They have few or no painted scenes, &c. Persons wait within

the screens ready to dress or undress them, as occasion requires.

When they act in the street, they are paid by the inhabitants of that street; when they act in temples, it is at the charge of the members of the temple, or him who, on any particular occasion, employs them. As none of the fair sex are allowed to appear on a stage, they employ young men or boys of an effeminate air and countenance to act the woman's part. Some companies of actors consist of men from twenty to forty years of age; and these are in the most esteem among the Chinese. Others consist of young men between twelve and eighteen; and these are most esteemed by the Europeans. They have both tragic and comic performances. These, especially the first, they seem to act with great propriety both of gesture and expression. They represent the workings of the passions so naturally, that they often affect very sensibly even an European spectator, though ignorant of the language with which this action is accompanied.

The subject of their plays is generally the life and heroic actions of some brave man

man among their ancestors. Some of my Chinese acquaintance told me, that these plays were instituted, and often repeated, to recommend bravery and virtue, and to ridicule vice; and to give the mob an idea of the constitution, the different degrees of dignity in the empire, and the authority and manners of the court; which, in such an extensive empire, the common people could not be otherwise informed of.

The whole streets are so filled on these occasions with a pleased and attentive crowd, that you cannot pass by. When an actor plays his part well, the mob all unite in calling him to return to the stage, and re-act his part. I have seen young boys, resembling young women, in beauty, effeminacy and dress, act the females part so well, that the mob obliged them to act it three times over before they were allowed to leave the stage.

The plays are generally concluded with tumbling, fighting, or combating with giants or wild beasts; or else with some humorous postures, gestures, and expressions, calculated to raise a laugh.

During my stay at Canton, a great many festivals were celebrated by feasting, gaming, acting comedies, and sending presents to their friends. On one of these days I went in company with four gentlemen belonging to our ships, to take a walk round the city walls. In order to get into the country, we had a long street to pass through, which was so crowded with people and stages at every twenty yards distance, that it was with great difficulty we could make way for ourselves. When we had got to the end of it, and had just got a glance of the country, we found as great a concourse of people, as we had seen in the street; which determined us to return; especially as we had observed a number of ill-looking fellows beginning to follow us, and making motions to one another as if they had some design upon us when we were got a little further from the city. On our turning back, they appeared so angry at the disappointment, that they boldly came up, and demanded money of us; and one of us taking a pinch of snuff, they demanded each a pinch, which was readily granted. But the continual cry  
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was for money, which we were resolutely determined not to comply with; but continued to struggle through the crowd, while they were endeavouring all the while to pull us back. Had we offered to defend ourselves with blows, it would have been extremely imprudent, because there was not one Chinese that offered to assist us, and had we made any resistance, they would certainly have overpowered us. The mob in general, seemed to encourage these impudent fellows. So that we were fain to bear their pulling and jostling us very patiently, while we endeavoured to get nearer and nearer home. Some thousands followed, seeming mightily pleased at the distress of the poor *Fanquoys*, as they call us. In our way, as we were endeavouring to get under a stage erected in the street, one of these fellows pulled off the hat and wig, from one of our companions, and threw it upon the stage. The poor gentleman looked very foolish, at seeing them tossed in the air, from side to side, without being able to reach them; and seemed not a little nettled at being obliged to suffer an affront, which it was not in his power to resent. At length, one of  
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the Chinese took compassion upon the poor bare-headed *Fanquoy*, brought him his hat and wig, used means to rid us of our troublesome attendants, and conducted us home. We entertained our Chinese friend in the factory as well as we could, and the gentleman who was so particularly obliged to his civility, gave him to the value of 1s. 3 d. two *mace*, with which he seemed extremely well-pleased, and, after a great many *chin-chins*, (a prevailing salutation in China) he left us.

There is none of their festivals solemnized with such pomp and splendor as that called by us the *Feast of Lanthorns*. All the people in the city and suburbs hang up lanthorns in the streets and in their houses, and those upon the water, hang them up upon their boats; and in all places they are hung so near each other, that they are indeed innumerable, and make the night appear as light as day. On this occasion, they give themselves up to all the extravagancies practised at a carnival. Some of these lanthorns are very costly. The people will retrench their other necessary expence, that they may do something extraordinary on this night. They

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are illuminated either with wax-candles or with lamps. The generality of these lanterns are about four foot high; some round, others square. The panes are of transparent silk or finest gauze, having human figures, rocks, trees and flowers, painted upon them, in very lively colours. Some of the grand lanterns have the figures of men on horseback, deer, dogs, and many other figures of animals, nicely cut out, which being made to move on the inside, appear very lively to the spectators without. The number of lanterns is almost infinite; the gilding, carving, silk, painting, and other expences attending them, must amount to a vast sum. In short, on this illuminated night, the whole people seem to run mad for they know not what. I wish our Europeans could be excepted from the charge.

The Chinese say, that this feast took its rise from the following accident. A great Mandarin, who had used the people under him with great humanity and tenderness, had a beloved daughter, who took it into her head one evening to throw herself into the river, and was drowned. As soon as she was missed, the whole people both in town and country, who lived under

der his jurisdiction, out of gratitude, sallied forth with lanthorns, to look for the young lady, but she could not be found. Every year afterwards the people of that place assembled with their lanthorns on the anniversary of that evening; and, in process of time, this practice among a few, prevailed over all, and is now become an established and universal custom.

After sun-set no Chinese will walk abroad, unless he take a *Timlong*, i.e. a small round lanthorn, along with him. These hand-lanthorns are made of small wire, fastened with silk thread in the manner of net-work, and covered with very thin oiled paper. They have some red characters painted on the one side, which I take to be the maker's, or perhaps the owner's name. They give a good deal of light, and are sold very cheap. Every one walking the streets at night without a lanthorn, is suspected of intending some mischief, is seized by the watchmen, and kept in custody till he is examined.

These watchmen go regularly about the streets every night; and some of them are appointed to attend at the railed gates in the streets of the suburbs, which are shut about  
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ten o'clock at night, that they may open them to people who pass or repass; but none are permitted to pass without examination.

Though the Europeans generally reside in their particular factories, and are maintained at the expence of the companies in whose service they are; yet they are at liberty to reside in a Chinese's house, where they can board on very reasonable terms. And were the Europeans allowed to see and converse with the Chinese women, I believe they would not want plenty of lodgers; but it is a rule among them, never to lodge or even board an European if there is a woman in the house. Some of the Chinese merchants with whom we had considerable dealings, often invited us to their houses, eat and drank with us, and shewed us all their goods and curiosities, in order to ingratiate themselves with us; yet even then they kept their wives, daughters, and every servant-maid out of the way.

The worthiest man I ever knew among them was one *Tingua*, a broker, with whom I contracted an intimate acquaintance. This *Tingua* kept shop in the same street where

where our factory was situated. He was once a very considerable Chinese merchant; but from misfortunes in trade, had failed, and now employed himself in selling for other merchants, and kept musters of all their goods in his shop. He was a man of great integrity, and, as he could speak better English than any merchant in Canton, it was of great service to him in his dealings: he was particularly civil and respectful to strangers, with whom he always behaved in a free, open, and frank manner, 'by which means he was introduced to a general acquaintance with the Europeans, particularly the English: he was neither uncharitable nor superstitious; for he would eat and drink heartily with us, take a glass of our arrack punch, and manage our knives and forks genteely, which are held in abomination by the generality of the Chinese. When I wanted to have any thing explained in regard to the manners or customs of the people, I had always recourse to my friend *Tingua*, who, as he was very ready to gratify my curiosity about China, and to satisfy me in my enquiries, was, at the same time, very solicitous to know the nature of the government.

vernment, manners and language of Britain: he often went along with me to the country, and visited every place of any note, to which he could procure me access. I wanted much to see his wife, who lived in the city; but that, notwithstanding our intimacy, I could never accomplish; such a bad impression have they received of Europeans. One day *Tingua* took me about two miles into the country to see his son about twelve years old, who was at school there, when ~~he~~ took occasion to make the pretty little boy a present of an English half-crown; which *Tingua* observing, he seemed angry; and told me, that presents to children were never allowed in China, though it might be the custom in England, and insisted on my taking it back again.

As it is a prevailing custom in China for every one to celebrate his birth-day, honest *Tingua* came one morning to my apartment in the factory before I was out of bed, told me that this was his birth-day, and invited me to come, accompanied with one of my select friends, and sup with him in the evening. I had been already too sensible of his civility and the good

good opinion he entertained of me, to refuse his kind invitation. Accordingly we went in the evening to his house, where, after the usual ceremonies, we took our seats. The company consisted of four Chinese, *Tingua*, my companion, and myself. *Tingua* stood interpreter betwixt the four Chinese and us, who soon grew fond of our conversation. In a little time supper came upon the table, served in the Chinese manner. *Tingua*, the master of the feast, took ~~up~~ his *chopsticks* with an air, as already described, which was followed by the rest of the company. Upon which we also tried to use their ceremonies in eating; but *Tingua* observing us to perform them very awkwardly, desired us to use our own freedom, as if we were at home; and ordered the servant to bring us two small forks, instead of the *chopsticks*. The Chinese were as much diverted with our manner of eating as we were with theirs, in which they use so much ceremony, that I am persuaded it must take away a good deal of their pleasure in eating. Though there were a good many different dishes set before us, all cut into small bits ready for the mouth, yet I did not



not care to venture on any that I did not know; as I imagined they might possibly be dogs, cats, rats, or frogs, which they eat as commonly there, as we do beef and mutton in England. My companion and I contented ourselves therefore with a dish of fish, and some other things that were plain and known to us. *Tingua*, however, was very pressing to have us fill our plate with the victuals that he esteemed nicest; from which we endeavoured politely to excuse ourselves. Every now and then, each guest takes a cup of *Shamshew*, a liquor before described, which is served up hot. All the company lift their cups together, drink, take them from their mouths, and set them on the table, at the same instant, following the motion or signal of the master of the house. Of this liquor, which is excellent, each of us had about twenty cups ere supper was over, which made us all pretty merry. After supper, fruit, sweetmeats, &c. were set upon the table, which were very fine and delicious. Then the company were regaled with tea; but it was now about eleven o'clock at night; and as we had not been accustomed to drink it so late, we

excused ourselves, took leave of our Chinese friends, and returned to the factory attended by *Tingua's* servant carrying a lanthorn before us.

My worthy friend, who, I believe, is still alive, besides faithfully settling all accounts between us, before my departure made me a present of some fine tea, and a drawing of a Chinese woman, which hung in his own bed-room, and which he imagined I was fond of. I insisted to pay for the present, as I was witness to his having rejected several good offers for it; yet he obstinately refused to accept any thing. This man I would recommend to the acquaintance of such of my countrymen as are going thither before any I knew in that part of the world.

It is as easy to distinguish a countryman from a citizen in Canton as it is in London. The Chinese peasants are much tanned, clumsy in their shape, and clownish in their behaviour and dress. When we fall in their way, they come about us, and stare at us, as a wonder; but we are so common about the town, that the citizens take little notice of us.

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When I reflect on the rudeness of our English sailors to those of the Chinese with whom they dare be free, even the women themselves not excepted when they come in their way, I am not surprized that they are so reserved. This licentious freedom so remarkable in the behaviour of the English sailors, is perhaps a great prejudice to our trade there, as well as with other nations. There cannot be a greater affront offered to a Chinese than to cut off his lock; yet I have seen several Europeans offer at it, and have even heard of some having actually done it: though indeed, in that case the aggressor runs the hazard of his life, as the Chinese will lose no opportunity to have his revenge. The Dutch also frequently draw their knives upon them; for which I have often seen them severely drubbed, and sent home with sore bones to their factory. On this account, some of our people, though more decent in their behaviour, are apt to meet with ill treatment; so that in this, as in many other cases, the innocent suffer for the guilty.

There are numbers of strollers, dancers, posture-makers, tumblers, &c. perpetually going up and down, some playing upon musical instruments, others shewing legerdemain or flight of hand tricks; these last carry large living snakes in baskets, and sometimes twisted about their necks, arms, and naked bodies. These poor creatures, however, get very little from their countrymen; a *cash*, which is the tenth-part of three farthings Sterl. is reckoned a large alms. The posture-masters and dancers are generally old men, are dressed very fantastically, talk very fast all the while they are performing, and are so droll and diverting, that it is absolutely impossible to look on them without laughing.

Though Canton is but 24 degrees from the equator, and is scorching hot in summer; yet, about the months of December and January, it is subject to high winds and very heavy rains. The sudden alteration the climate and temperature of the air then undergoes is very surprising. I have been one week almost naked, and plagued

plagued to death with gnats and musque-toes; and the next, have been obliged to put on two waistcoats and an upper coat, and sometimes a great coat to cover all, in order to defend me from the cold. At this time, the people of China take to their winter-dress, which is lined with furs or quilted cotton. Instead of wearing fans, which are used by men, women and children in hot weather, they keep a live quail in their hands to keep them warm, and have the long sleeves of their gowns drawn down to cover their hands. Thus equipped they walk so stiff, and shove up their shoulders so much, that one would think they were freezing to death.

The streets of Canton, in the time of these violent storms, called *Typhons*, are overflowed with water, and it is often so deep, that in many places you may scull a small boat. The common people pass from place to place by wading through the water; and those of the better rank are carried in chairs, or on men's backs. Their *Umbrellas* which were just before used to shade them from the heat of the sun, are now used to keep off the rain.

One of these *Typhons* happened when I was there, and filled our factory, in some places, near two feet deep of water.

NANKIN is most celebrated among the Chinese not only as the greatest city, though the court has been long removed thence to Peking, but likewise as the place where all kinds of commodities are best manufactured. When they would set off any thing to advantage, it is common for them to tell you, that it is a Nankin thing, or of Nankin fashion; from which they conclude, we must esteem it good. It is probable, indeed, that Nankin is the place where the little learning, arts and sciences they have, are taught in greatest perfection; and where the most curious and valuable commodities come from; but there are possibly several other places, which afford as fit and beneficial goods for the merchant.

The dialect the Chinese use in common with us, is a mixture of European languages, but mostly, as we formerly hinted, of English and Portuguese, together with some words of their own. They cannot  
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pronounce the letter *r* at all. *Fuki* with them signifies *Friend*; and when they would say, *I saluted him*, or *made my compliments to him*, they say, *I moiki handsom face for he*, *I moiki grandi chin-chin for he*. When they talk in their own language, one would imagine they were singing, especially when they speak the court or Mandarin dialect, which every person of any consideration must learn to understand and speak, otherwise he is sure to be despised.

• Their language is so difficult, that I have heard some of the natives say, that Mr. Flint the company's agent at Canton, though he had been among them from his early youth, cannot yet speak it perfectly. And I know, that few English people, though they have remained there a full half-year, were able to bring away a single Chinese word with them, that is, to pronounce it so justly as that the Chinese would understand them; for the least depression or elevation of the tone or accent of a word, entirely alters the signification; so that, by committing an error in the sound, you may innocently affront a Chi-  
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nese,

nese, when you intend to pay him the greatest compliment.

During my stay in Canton, I picked up a few words. By constant practice, and the help of my good old friend *Tingua*, I got the true accent so well, that I was understood by every Chinese I spoke them to. All I acquired was indeed more curious than useful; for my stock of words was so scanty, that I soon sunk dumb in conversation with them, or even in making a bargain, and was obliged to have recourse to the confused jargon already mentioned, which I hammered out as well as I could. At the same time, I must own, that, when I had occasion to go to the remote places of the town, where no one was to be found that could speak a word of any other language but the Chinese, I have found my small cargo to be very useful. For the sake of the curious therefore, and as it may be of use to those who go thither, I shall here mention the most remarkable of the words I learned among them.

*English.*

Old friend,

*Chinese.*

*Howphangieow.*

*English,*



<i>English.</i>	<i>Chinese.</i>
Drink tea,	<i>Yim chá.</i>
Sit down,	<i>Tsing tsá.</i>
Good,	<i>How.</i>
Bad,	<i>Mow.</i>
A man,	<i>Yen.</i>
Scales or dodgeons,	<i>Litang.</i>
Have you scales,	<i>Litang wá.</i>
I have none,	<i>Ngoá mou Litang ó.</i>
How much,	<i>Kitong.</i>
How much money,	<i>Kitong ann á.</i>
One dollar,	<i>Iat cong ann Tsein.</i>
One tael and a half,	<i>Iat Leang ann póan.</i>
How old are you,	<i>Kito foyi ni.</i>
Twenty years,	<i>Yi skap sci.</i>
You,	<i>Ni.</i>
I,	<i>Ngoá.</i>
Tea,	<i>Chá.</i>
Bread,	<i>Mpintow.</i>
The Emperor,	<i>Wangtai.</i>
You are a good man,	<i>Nico How yen á.</i>
A Candle,	<i>Lobjouck.</i>
Come here,	<i>Ly lo.</i>
Go there,	<i>Hy lo.</i>

N. U. B. E. R. S.

1,	<i>iat.</i>	5,	<i>gng.</i>
2,	<i>yi.</i>	6,	<i>lock.</i>
3,	<i>sam.</i>	7,	<i>fat.</i>
4,	<i>seít.</i>	8,	<i>pat.</i>
N U M.			

## N U M B E R S.

9, <i>cow.</i>	100, <i>iat pa or ipá.</i>
10, <i>shap.</i>	200, <i>yi pá.</i>
11, <i>shap iat.</i>	300, <i>sam pá.</i>
20, <i>yi shap.</i>	1000, <i>iat tsin.</i>
21, <i>yi shap iat.</i>	2000, <i>yi toin.</i>

I believe there is no country in the world where there are fewer idlers, or where the people in general, are more industrious. It is surprising to see what numberless occupations they betake themselves to, in order to get a livelihood, some of which are so mean and laborious, and to appearance so trifling, that one can hardly conceive how it is possible for them to live by them. But all kind of provisions, especially rice and tea, their principal food, are so cheap, that they can easily subsist upon a very scanty income. Some are employed in going about with baskets, picking up bones, bits of glass, and every other trifle they can find in the streets, canals, and bye-places; others, in gathering and carrying out all sorts of dung and filth from the city, which they deposite in two baskets, and carry to the country, in the same manner

manner as the milk-women do their pails in England, and sell to the farmers for manure to their ground. Those houses near the river-side have kitchens and other office-houses built on the brink of the water, by which all kind of filth is carried away; and I have observed these wretched scavengers standing up to their middle in water, waiting under these office-houses, to get their baskets filled. I have sometimes met whole troops of these poor creatures with their loaded baskets going into the country; and have been so much annoyed with the disagreeable smell of their burden, that I was fain to retire from the road as soon as they approached me.

I have been often moved with pity at the strict confinement of the Chinese ladies. But as they see none of their sex in a better situation, they bear their slavery without murmuring, having many amusements and employments that help to fill up their time. They delight much in keeping pheasants, turtles, and singing birds in their chambers, and small trees, shrubs and flowers, growing in large pots. In some  
rooms

rooms they have large glaſs and earthen baſons full of ſmall fiſhes, particularly that kind, called the *gold and ſilver fiſh*. They are about the length of one's finger; the male of a fine red from the head to the middle, and from thence to the tail of a ſhining gold colour. The female is of a pure white colour. This is a very tender animal, and eaſily affected by any alteration of weather; contrivances are therefore fallen upon to ſhelter them from the heat, by ſetting them in cool places, and changing the water often. When they are removed from one baſon into another, great care muſt be taken not to touch them with the hand, otherwiſe they would immediately expire. A ſhell filled with water is uſed in liſting them. They are ſometimes killed by the noiſe of thunder, of great guns, and even by the ſmell of tar or pitch. With theſe, and reading Chineſe plays, the poor ladies amuſe themſelves. The reſt of their time is generally filled up in ſowing, embroidering, and dreſſing themſelves.

The common women who are moſtly of Tartar breed, have much the advantage of the fine ladies. They are at full liberty

liberty to roam about their small cottages and boats, without restraint, while those in higher life dare not see a man's face in their whole life but that of their husbands, and, as was before observed, ~~are~~ rendered incapable of walking by the smallness of their feet. When old, however, they are allowed to sit at their doors, and I have seen them often employed there in sowing or embroidering. But, if any younger ones were accidentally standing behind them, they never failed to run out of sight ere I could get a glance of them.

One day, as I was returning from an agreeable walk in the country, three or four miles above Canton, where there were a number of cotton bushes growing; and walking through a great many small streets and narrow lanes in ~~my way~~ to the factory, I descried two women and a man covered with a sort of white veils, kneeling upon the ground, and making a hideous noise, by screaming, and every now and then stirring up a large fire of wood ~~that was placed~~ before them. I stood amazed, but could not discover any variety; they still continued crying and stirring up the fire. I heard, at the same time,

time, a loud screaming in a house directly opposite to them. No body appeared from whom I could inform myself of the meaning of all this. At length, a Chinese observing me, came up to me, and insisted on my leaving that street; which I was obliged to comply with. I conjectured that some other ceremony was to succeed, which he did not think it proper I should be witness to, and that the whole might be occasioned by the death of some relation in the house.

The soldiery in Canton are dressed mostly in blue Nankin stuff, their gowns short and narrow, with rattan caps on their heads, and a bunch of red hair fixed on the top of them; which, when they perform any quick motion, or are agitated by the wind, make a grand appearance, especially when four or five thousand of them are marching in a body. Their boots are made of silk, and lined with cotton. Their principal arms are the sword and the bow. I believe they are all horsemen.

Their swords, which are very large, heavy and broad, they wear on their left side, but with the handle behind, and the point

point hanging down forwards. When they draw them, they with their left hand take hold of the lower end of the scabbard, and lift up the sword behind them so high, as that the handle may reach above the shoulder behind; so that, at the drawing the sword with the right hand over the left shoulder, they can make a nimble and severe stroke. However impossible or inconvenient this may seem to those who have not seen it performed; yet it is absolutely certain, that they do it with great ease and agility, the effect, no doubt, of constant practice.

Their bows are very large and strong. They carry them in a case on their left side, and a case of arrows on their back. On their right thumb they wear a broad and thick ivory or agat ring, upon which they place the string when they draw; and they have another ring on the left thumb for the arrow to run upon when they shoot. The Chinese in general are bred to the bow, and are much exercised in shooting at marks. I was myself witness to one of them shooting a large fowl on wing, which they told me was commonly done, and shows to what perfection they have arrived in

in handling the bow. I own it surpris'd me not a little to see a flying fowl killed with an arrow, I could never bend one of these bows, without help; and it was as much as two of us could accomplish, from which you may easily conceive the force of the arrow.

The military horses are small, but fat, nimble, sure-footed, and hardy. They are all brought from Tartary, or Tartar breed. The saddles and bridles are much in the European fashion. Some of them are large and soft, resembling those in Turkey. By way of whip, they use a tough rod four foot long, with a knotted silken string fastened to it. This whip they tie by a string to the wrist of the right arm, that they may not lose it when they use their arms.

There is a large plain below Canton, not far from the side of the river, which is called by the English, *the artillery ground*, where the Chinese forces are commonly exercised and reviewed. I have seen some thousands exercising at once on that spot; But, in my opinion, they come far short of that art, dexterity and regularity, that



we observe in the European military exercise. The officers and soldiers are mostly Tartars. The officers, in sunshine, make a splendid appearance, their robes being embroidered with gold and silver on the back and breast, where their badges of distinction are fixed; which make a glittering show. They all wear whiskers, and have a fierce look. Though these soldiers are brought from a more northern climate, yet their tawny complexions, and their fierce countenance, sufficiently distinguish them from the natives of China, who are a more effeminate and soft-featured people.

In this plain there is a large horse-course, with posts fixed at small distances. In this broad path, I have seen soldiers riding with incredible swiftness, one after another, shooting their arrows at these posts. I have even seen them dismount from their horses, when at full gallop, take up their arrows, mount, and shoot them again. And, which is still more amazing, I have seen them mount and dismount in this career for the same arrow, making use only of one all the way round. This last operation is only performed by the more experienced soldiers; as I observed

T

people

people employed to pick up those arrows which the less experienced soldiers could not recover in riding.

Some of the Chinese told me, that, at the admission of a Mandarin of war, he must show his warlike skill and dexterity before the other Mandarines, by trial. Bodily strength, in the exercise of the bow, sword, and quarter-staff, is an absolutely necessary qualification. He must draw a certain bow, wield a heavy sword, lift a weight of seven or eight hundred *catties*,\* and, to crown all, he must shew his good stomach, by eating up a number of basins of rice. These accomplishments are of great moment to recommend him to favour.

The pay of a common soldier is ten *taels*† of silver *per annum*, and a *cattie* of rice and an ounce of salt *per diem*, which are delivered monthly from the Emperor's granaries to the paymaster. This is but poor pay, yet, in such a cheap country, they make shift to live upon it; as they are allowed to work at their several employ-

\* A *cattie* is 20 ounces English

† A *tael* is 6s. 3d. Sterl.

when off duty, on condition that they shall be ready on a call. There is a separate fund allotted for the maintenance of the horses.

When I attended these military exercises, I have been frequently accosted by the soldiers, offering me their horses, bows and arrows, in order to try my skill. But, as I had heard before, that some gentlemen of my acquaintance who had accepted their offer, were no sooner mounted, and moved a little way, than they were surrounded by the soldiery, and money demanded from them, which they were obliged to give, I civilly declined their offer.

When an accidental fire happens to any of their buildings, they manage it most wretchedly. Instead of working hard, they fall a praying to their household deities to interpose in extinguishing it; and, when they find that their supplications have had no effect, and that the fire is spreading, which indeed it must certainly do, from the vast quantities of wood they are always obliged to keep in their houses for fuel; then they will fall a reproaching their deities for negligence, and

will treat them with great contempt. No less than three fires happened during my stay at Canton, which did much mischief. And had it not been for the assistance given by the Europeans, with a fire engine which Capt. Latcelles of the York gave them, the suburbs had almost been reduced to ashes. One of these fires happened among the sampans or large boats on the river, while I was passing in a small boat from Wampo to Canton. Near thirty large sampans were burnt down to the surface of the water. It was indeed a most dreadful and shocking sight. And happening in the middle of the night, and the boats lying close together, it made terrible havock, before the conflagration subsided.

The river *Ta* at Canton is somewhat broader than the *Thames* at London; but the crowds of small vessels that ply the *Ta* are vastly more numerous. For the space of four or five miles opposite the city of Canton, you have an extensive wooden town of large vessels and boats, stowed so closely, that there is scarcely room for a large boat to pass. They are generally  
drawn

drawn up in ranks, with a narrow passage left for vessels to pass and repass. Some of them are large vessels, of eight or nine hundred tons burden, called *junks*, with which they perform their foreign voyages. Here are also an incredible number of small boats, in which poor families live all their life-long, begetting and bringing up children, without ever putting a foot on shore. In these they keep dogs, cats, hogs, geese, and other domestic animals, both for subsistence and sale. There is nothing similar to this in Europe; for the people in this country are so exceedingly numerous, that vast numbers of families are obliged to betake themselves to boats on the river for want of room or the means of subsistence, on the land, where almost every habitable spot is occupied. These boats are very conveniently built, with arched covers and tilts made of solid wood, or bamboo and cajan leaves, so high, that the people can walk upright under them. They manage them very nimbly, having a sculling-oar at the stern, with which they make them go surprisngly fast; and I

have often been amazed to see with what ease and safety they passed one another.

The large sampans, for inland carriage, are generally steered with sculls; for, were they to use oars, there would not be room on the river for half their number. They all have long bamboo poles, for pushing up along the shore. These boats are employed in carrying goods and passengers up and down the river and canals.

The smaller boats are employed in fishing with nets. Their fish they sell or barter for cloaths, flesh, rice, and other necessaries. They are always at home, as they carry their houses along with them. They are miserably poor; their children are very numerous, and go quite naked in summer. They are very much tanned, continually crawling about the little boat, and have all of them *calabash-bells* tied on their backs, to serve as buoys to preserve them from drowning when they chance to fall over-board, which frequently happens. When I was in one of these boats, I could not at first conceive where they had beds for such large families. But I afterwards understood that they are fixed below the deck on which they commonly tread, which

which is made of boards that can be taken up as occasion requires, and when let down, are jointed closely together. In the hinder-part of the boat, a stove is fixed for dressing the family's victuals; and another apartment for keeping their live animals, which they breed in great numbers; and when they have no more room, they hang them in baskets, which they make fast to the outside of the boat.

These boats come crowding about the European ships at Wampo, especially at dinner-time, begging victuals from the people aboard. In return for which they offer to wash their linen and to do other menial services, which they are often entrusted with. They commonly flock about the head of the vessels, lest the custom-house officers in the *Happo boats*, who lie the stern or side, should hinder them. They always make a great noise, gaping for victuals, and pointing to their mouths to express their hunger, hold up their hands, or a little basket fixed to a bamboo-pole, with which they reach up to those who incline to give them victuals, or any thing to do.

Some of these boats have smart young girls aboard, which induces the sailors to employ and favour them; but the more considerate of us employ the old distressed people that have large families of children, who, as they are the greatest objects of charity, serve our people better in washing, mending cloaths, and the like, and with greater thankfulness, to those who take compassion on them, than the others.

It is among these miserable wretches, that the European sailors, taking advantage of their necessity, will bargain with a father and mother for an embrace of their daughter. This must be done however very privately, lest they should be discovered by the petty Mandarines, who are appointed to visit often, and keep order and discipline in their floating world. These Mandarines are continually going up and down the river, searching such boats as they have any reason to suspect; and, in case an European is caught in them, with young women, he, together with the people of the boat, must undergo the chastisement of the bamboo, or bribe the Mandarin with a dollar or two to let them pass. There are some of these boats, called



called *Lob Lob boats*, well stocked with a number of beautiful young women, of different ages, to whom every body, Chinese or European, may have access at any time. Though these boats are under the jurisdiction of the Mandarines, and equally liable to punishment with the others; yet there is so good an understanding between the Mandarines and the proprietors of ~~these~~ boats, that they deal pretty extensively, and with great safety; only when they discover an European who has a large sum of money about him, they lay their heads together to make the most of him. It is even said, that the Mandarines themselves are no strangers to these boats, particularly when there is any fresh goods imported. The pimps are numerous. If an European wants to see a lady of pleasure, it is only speaking to these fellows, who will immediately conduct you in a small sampan, to a place, where your wishes may be gratified. These enterprises, however, are not always executed without danger.

I would advise every one that goes to China, by all means to beware of these women, not only on account of the inconveniencies

veniences before mentioned, but to avoid what is infinitely worse, the danger of infectious diseases, which are very common amongst them. They are also subject to the several stages of the venereal distemper; which, either from the frequency of their prostitution, the grossness of their food, their ignorance of medicine, or a combination with other diseases, usually arrives at the most exasperated degrees, and puts a period to their unhappy lives. I have known several instances, even in the soundest constitutions, where an infection caught from these women, has been infinitely more rapid in its progress and fatal in its effects, than in Europe. As to the leprosy, it is not so certain it can be communicated by mere contact—Yet it is a risque to be avoided. Another consideration ought to deter Europeans from intercourse with these prostitutes, which is, that a proneness to venery is a concomitant symptom of this loathsome distemper.

About a mile below Canton, by the side of the river, there stands a large tree, which we called the *leprosy-tree*, the boughs whereof spread very wide. According to tradition, and the received opinion there, this tree conveys

conveys a healing virtue to those troubled with the leprosy, if they sit some months under its boughs. Accordingly numbers of people flock thither from all parts; some sit in little huts on the ground, others in small boats fastened to the water-edge, so as to be under the boughs of the tree. The skins of some of them are as black as coal, dried and withered like a leaf in autumn; some with sores through which you may see their bones; some without their noses, others without their eyes, cheeks, toes and fingers; some having their faces quite eat away, others their heads, legs and arms, prodigiously swelled; and some quite emaciated, having their bones quite covered with putrid ulcers. In short it was the most frightful and melancholy sight I had ever seen in my life.

There is no crime more ignominious, than for a Chinese woman to be instrumental in bringing in a new breed among them. When they become pregnant therefore, to an European lover, they imbrue their hands in the innocent's blood, to prevent discovery. As I was standing one day on the stairs of our factory, I observed three new-born children floating by me,  
which

which having been the illegitimate offspring of these amours, I supposed they had thrown over-board.

All the way from the city of Canton, where the English factories are situate, to Wampo where the ships lie, which is about twelve or fourteen miles, is a most agreeable passage by water. The eye is entertained with pleasant green and fruitful fields on each side the river *Ta*, interspersed with villages and lofty *Pagodas*, or steeples, and numberless boats of all sizes passing and repassing. One of these *Pagodas* is situated close to the side of the river, and called by the English the *Half-way house*. Our seamen usually take a dram as soon as they can see through the windows of this *Pagoda*.

Good government is not more necessary in any part of the world, than it is in this river; for which purpose many small men of war are stationed at proper distances, upon the river. They are built very long, and can use a great number of oars on each side. In every vessel a Mandarin presides, having under his command a

8.                    number





number of foldiers and rowers. They carry long small fwivels not much larger in diameter than our English mulkets; thefe are placed at the gunnel and stern, which are covered with bamboo matt and cajan leaves. Near by the Mandarin's apartment, a number of inftruments of execution lie ready for ufe, fuch as fwords, pikes, hatchets, &c.

~~These~~ Thefe veffels falute one another as they pafs, by ringing of *gongs*, a fort of bells, on which they ftrike with a piece of wood. They keep the other boats in great awe, and judge in every cafe that happens on the river. As I was returning to our factory in a fmall boat, a large fampan run us down, and ftove in the fide of our boat, by which we fhipped a good deal of water. The poor people on board, men, women and children, immediately raifed a hallowing. The large boat made from us thinking to efcape with impunity; but we followed as faft as we could in our fhattered condition till we came alongfide of a Mandarin's fampan, who fired, and brought us both to, fent an officer aboard to examine our damage, and decreed the large fampan who run us down  
infantly

instantly to pay three taels to the poor people in the boat where I was ; and then dismissed us both.

All European boats, and those of China that have European passengers or goods aboard, must have a permit or pass from the *Happo*, which must be renewed at every *Happo* or custom-house in their passage. If this pass is neglected, the Europeans expose themselves to the insults and threatenings of the haughty Mandarines, who imagine all foreigners, of what rank soever, to be greatly their inferiors. One instance of their haughty spirit which occasioned much confusion, and a stoppage of all trade with the English factory for a little time, I was an eye witness of. Capt. C—e of the *Onslow* drew his sword, and threatened to chastise a petty custom-house-officer, who endeavoured by force to search his scrutore as he was passing in a boat from Canton to Wampo, a piece of trouble our Captains and supercargoes are usually exempted from. This petty officer was highly affronted, and I dare say heartily frightened too, at the Captain's usage, who was not altogether so blameless as might be wished. The officer

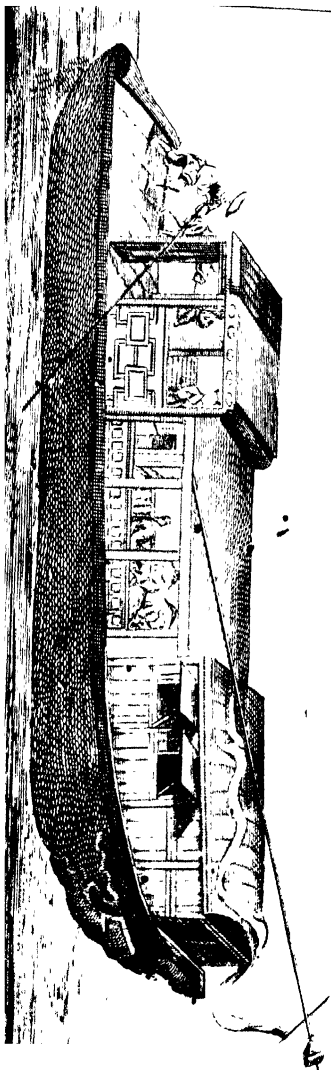
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complained



complained loudly to his superiors, and no doubt reported this affair with some aggravations. Whether the Mandarines had suspected that our Chinese Linguist had given encouragement to such proceedings, or was privy to some underhand dealing; or whether, from a political view, to make the English believe that the offence was greater than it really was, I do not know; ~~but~~ the poor Linguist was brought to the factory loaded with irons, guarded by a parcel of rough Tartar soldiers well armed, and attended by two Mandarines, who seemed to be in a violent passion. They were received by Capt. H—ne and Mr. P—r, the chief supercargoes of the four ships belonging to the factory, with all the politeness and respect due to their rank. The Linguist, who could speak pretty good English, represented his own personal sufferings very warmly, and signified the demands of the *Tsongtou* or Vice-Roy, by way of satisfaction for the insult Capt. C——e had given to the officer doing his duty. In the mean time all trade was stopt. It was generally believed, however, to be a contrivance among some petty Mandarines and Chinese merchants, to  
levy

levy two or three hundred dollars upon the supercargoes, as it is probable the *Tsongtou* knew nothing of the matter; but they imagined, that making use of his name, putting a stop to trade, and our seeing the apparent distress of the Linguist, and soldiers crowding about our factory, would infallibly frighten our people into a compliance with their measures. Capt. C——e was then in his apartment ~~in the~~ factory, who, observing the Mandarines come with the Linguist in irons, attended by armed soldiers, was not a little surprised, and at a loss to conceive their design. And it would seem that he was apprehensive of personal danger, as he kept closely in his room, with his sword drawn, and a pair of loaded pistols lying ready before him on his table. The supercargoes, however, insisted on waiting on the *Tsongtou* to settle the matter before him, which the Mandarines artfully evaded a long time. At last they consented, and even agreed on the precise time of getting an audience of the *Tsongtou*. But as the supercargoes were going into the city for that purpose, attended by Mr. Flint the company's agent, they were met by several Chinese





Chinese merchants \*, who told them, that they had already accommodated the affair with the *Tsongtou*,—but on what conditions I could never learn.

The Mandarin pleasure-boats on the river are very grand, and distinguished from all others by their yellow colours, and their being painted all over with the figures of dragons, lyons, tygers, &c. They make sometimes grand processions on the water, particularly when the *Tsongtou* goes down the river to sacrifice. He is then attended by his guards, a band of musick, and all the Mandarines in their robes of state. Each boat is distinguished from another, by colours flying, marked with their several dignities. On these occasions it is amazing to see the clear passage that the swarms of boats on the river make for this procession. If the parade happens in the night, or after it is dark, they have not only a great number of magnificent lanthorns hung up in all parts within these boats, but long strings of

\* Four of the Merchants names are *Tuckshaw*, *Umqua*, *Siumqua*, and *Gigua*.

lamps floating on the surface of the water on each side of the river, which make a most splendid shew.

Every house, ship, sampan, and even fishing-boat, has a domestic god to guard them; to him they pay adoration morning and evening. Before each deity a small square table is placed, covered over with wood-ashes, into which small furrows are drawn. These furrows are filled with powder of *putchok*, or *radix dulcis*, mixed with the powder of sandal, myrrh, and *olibanum*. When the composition is fired, it gives a moderate but pleasant smoke and smell for twenty four hours together, without renewing it.

Great numbers of canals are cut from the river *Ta* through the fields for watering the rice-ground, and for the conveniency of small boats passing into the interior parts of the country. There are likewise in these canals large flat-bottomed boats, for breeding ducks for sale, and for weeding the rice fields. In the flat-bottomed boats, there are three or four apartments above each other; on the uppermost the ducks hatch their eggs; in the lower they sit with

with their brood. The he-duck or drake, at the call of a fort of whistle, drives the young ones into the water, and goes before them to shew the way. A piece of board is fastened to the side, to let them have access into the boat; which serves as a bridge for the young ducklings to go out and come in by. The old ducks are so well trained, that, on the master of the boat winding his whistle, the whole flock will follow him into the rice-grounds he is employed to weed, and eat up frogs and such insects as would hinder the growth of the grain. About noon he winds his whistle again, on which they all repair on board their own vessel in good order. The old ducks divide into two parties; one guards the side, lest any stranger duck should enter with their own tribe; the other guards the rear, to see that none is left behind; and, when all are embarked, the old guardians enter, and take their proper posts. I was really surpris'd to see their order and œconomy.

As we came up the river with our large ships we were entertained with a view of the magnificent and splendid tombs of the Chinese grandees. At Wampo, where the

European ships generally anchor, there are great numbers of them. Near to this place is a small spot called *French-Island*, where all the Europeans bury their dead; and adjacent to that, another called *Powder-Island*, from the Europeans being in use to dry their powder, &c. upon it. This last is very small, and uninhabited. But the former is full of houses and inhabitants, who are very undisciplined and thievish. Here the Europeans often resort for their recreation; and are frequently insulted, and even robbed by these miscreants. Capt. C——, who used to go thither every morning to take a walk by himself, had one day the misfortune to meet with a parcel of these unhospitable fellows, who beat him most unmercifully, robbed him of his sword, cane, watch, &c. and were going to cut off his finger for the sake of a gold ring that could not easily be drawn off, which the Captain, for the sake of his finger, was glad to help them to. After they had beat and stripped him, they permitted him to go to the water-side, where his boat waited to receive him. The Captain made a heavy-complaint to the Mandarin, and demanded redress.

He



He promised to do his utmost to detect the villains; but without success. The Captain, naturally of a warm and passionate temper, was now almost mad with revenge. He fixed several small swivels on his long-boat, carried all his men ashore to the island well armed, drew them up in rank and file, exercised them, and at their head marched round the island, but without meeting any of the Chinese robbers. Had our little British army met with the thieves, they would doubtless soon have fallen victims to the Captain's resentment; but he was obliged only to gaze on *French-town*, and return home, without doing any execution. And indeed it was lucky that this affair went no further; for, had a battle ensued, in all probability the Mandarines at Canton would not have been satisfied with less than the Captain's life.

A little below the town of Wampo, which is about twelve or fourteen miles below Canton, there is a large field of rice, interspersed with rising grounds, which is generally overflowed at high water; where the European ships commonly

bargain with a *compradore* or sutler, to furnish them with victuals and other necessities during their stay. These people build a house for each ship, on one of these pieces of rising ground close by the water-edge. They are called by us *bankfalls*. In these we deposite the rigging and yards of the vessel, chests, water-casks, and every thing that incommodes us aboard. In these also we kill fresh provisions, and perform every other business that cannot be done so conveniently aboard. Each bankfall is guarded by a number of the ship's company, well-armed, day and night, who are under the command of a mate or midshipman, called the captain of the bankfall. This officer ought to be very alert, in placing the centinels, in taking particular care to prevent them from sleeping, and that no post is left vacant; for otherwise the bankfall may be robbed by a wild and thievish people, who are always lurking about them in boats, or in the *paddy* or rice-ground, watching an opportunity. These often make bold and impudent attempts to plunder them. I knew an instance of their getting into the back-door of the bankfall, by crawling on all-fours among

among a parcel of hogs, which go about the swamps or paddy ground, and carrying away brass kettles, pieces of meat, and any trifles they could get at. Nay, they will even steal before your face, when they see a probability of getting away before you can lay hold of them. During our stay, they were once bold enough to take the mulket out of a centinel's hand, when he was a little drowsy, and to present it at him, which soon made him retire, and gave them an opportunity of stealing.

Our people at first believed, that we might fire upon any Chinese who appeared about our bankfalls after ten at night. But an accident soon happened, which convinced us we were mistaken. One evening a centinel at a Danish bankfall fired at one of these thieves as he was approaching, and shot him dead. His accomplices immediately fled to their boats, or the rice-ground; and the dead body lay for several days before the bankfall, without the least notice being taken of it. At last the mandarine of that district, who had made a report of the affair to the *Tsongtou*, ordered a coffin to be made for the dead body, into which it was put, and

ordered it to lie before the Danish bankfall several days more. This affair created a great misunderstanding between the Danes and the Mandarines who expressly demanded the delinquent to be delivered up; which the Danes were forced to comply with. I left Canton before the affair was concluded; but am since informed that the Mandarines restored him to the Danes the year following.

The Chinese are so cautious to preserve the lives of the subjects, that they do not execute the most enormous criminal, till the sentence is satisfied by the Emperor himself; which occasions great delay in the execution of the law. In Nankin and Peking, the prisons are always crowded; and the lives of the prisoners are rendered so miserable, by the extreme want and torture they must suffer before their sentence arrives from court, that most of them wish for death before it comes. I have been told that 30,000 are sometimes executed in a month, at the clearing of their prisons, which is done once in three years; and about half that number re-  
 prieved.

The

The detestable crimes of sodomy and bestiality prevail at Canton and all the southern provinces of China, where, some say, it is either tolerated by law, or connived at by custom. I have known several merchants and people of fashion keep little boys about them, with whom, my Chinese friends told me, they committed that execrable crime. These boys are called *Pancheuts*, and the Chinese who keep them are fonder of them than of women. Their women too, who are by this means deprived of their husband's embraces, betake themselves also to unnatural practices.

The Chinese excel the Europeans in nothing more than in the art of cheating. When they have any point to manage in which their interest is concerned, no people know better how to insinuate themselves into the good opinion of those they mean to take an advantage of, or to improve an opportunity of doing it to the utmost. Nor will they decline the most hazardous undertaking when they have gain in their view. They are indeed very cunning,  
malicious

malicious and deceitful ; all their revenge is managed secretly ; and they can not only dissemble their malice, but seem patient even to insensibility, till they have a favourable opportunity to strike home. They apply themselves assiduously to discover the inclinations, humours, and tempers of these they deal with, and will keep up a fair appearance of friendship to their greatest enemies.

Though there are not wanting instances among them of fair dealers, of open generous usage to strangers, and of fidelity not to be corrupted ; yet the generality of them will make no scruple of imposing upon you, and are so far from being ashamed of it when detected, that they often laugh at those they have bubbled. Indeed an European always runs a great risque of being cheated if he trusts to his own judgment ; and if he employs a Chinese broker, as is often done, the broker and merchant will sometimes combine to deceive him. I myself once bought a piece of stuff for waistcoats and breeches ; without looking over the whole of it, ima-

gining

gining it was all alike; and sent it to my taylor; but was much surpris'd on his bringing them home, to find my waistcoats of different colours, and different substances. A gentleman of my acquaintance went into a goldsmith's shop, with an intention to buy a gold head for his cane; the goldsmith had none of the pattern he wanted, in that metal, though he had one of them in silver, but desired him to call in a day or two, and he should have one. He called, received the head, paid for it, and had it put on his cane. The gentleman, however, since my arrival in England, informed me that his supposed gold head proves to be a silver one, and in all likelihood the same he was shown in the shop, by which he had desired that the gold one might be made. When I have been in the merchant-shops, I have frequently had my handkerchiefs, fans, and staves, stolen from me; and when I presumed to demand them again, they would fall a laughing at me, without giving me any kind of satisfaction. To use violence, I perceived, was in vain, and would be only making a bad affair worse.

I knew a poor sailor, who pulled out his purse to count a few dollars which he had got that morning from the purser at 40 *per cent.* in order to provide a little tea, &c. for his homeward passage. A Chinese observing him, snatches the purse out of his hand, runs off, and the sailor after him. And though several Chinese saw the robbery, yet not one of them offered to stop the thief, but, on the contrary, fell laughing at the Englishman's simplicity in pretending to recover it. At last the Chinese man, finding he was near overtaken, dropped the purse; on which the poor tar stopped to take it up; but, to his great grief and mortification, he found only one dollar left. Thus the poor sailor was robbed of his money. Had he overtaken the thief, it is more than probable the mob would have rescued the villain, and sent home the poor sailor half dead with blows to the factory; for the mob are often so insolent, that they behave to strangers, as if there were neither law nor government in the country; excepting when a Mandarin passes by, and then they are all hush, and stand aside with their eyes fixed on the ground.

There



There is no body to complain to on these occasions, but the English Linguist, who always pretends that he cannot find out the aggressor; or, if he is found, that he denies the charge. By such trifling reasons, he evades the trouble he ought to take, and would make one believe that he is either bribed, or receives a share in the booty.

At Wampó, where the ships lie, numbers of petty merchants in their boats come about them selling victuals. Some of these fellows came along-side our vessel one day, bought several things of the men, and, among the rest, a pair of breeches, for which they gave him three dollars. The boat was no sooner gone, than the money was suspected. As all money goes by weight there, the dollars were cut down, and discovered to be made of base metal called *tutanague*, and to have only a thin plate of silver over them, whereon the arms and motto were as exactly done as on a good dollar. The same fellows came to our ship next morning, when they were laid hold of, and tied to the great guns, till the Mandarin should be informed of  
the

the matter. When they found themselves secured, they immediately offered to change the dollars, being prodigiously frightened at the prospect of the punishment they so justly deserved. Next day, the Mandarin, who visits all the ships in the morning, came on board. Our chief mate laid the affair before him, and told him that as such a crime would be punished with death in Europe, he therefore hoped that he would not entirely overlook it. The Mandarin immediately sentenced them to be bamboozed. Four of his servants. The manner of the punishment is this. The criminals were laid flat on their face; one man sat on their necks, another on their legs, to prevent them from moving; and two executioners, one on each side a criminal, lays heartily on their buttocks with large pieces of wood, by turns, as fast as possible. As the delinquents had only thin trowsers upon their breech, they must have felt the blows severely. They cried desperately, but could not stir, being held fast by the two men that were placed on their necks and limbs. The Mandarin stood over them, and, thinking that one  
of

of the executioners did not do his duty sufficiently, or to shew his willingness to give satisfaction as far as the laws of his country would permit him, he desired us to give him a large rattan; upon which he tucked up his long sleeves, held back his gown with his left hand, and laid on without mercy, till he made the blood ooze from their buttocks. As the Mandarin was a tall lusty man, I dare say his strokes were very heavy. When he was almost out of breath, he desisted, and the criminals immediately turning on their knees, and, crying and trembling, bowed their heads several times to the ground, and thanked him for his kind correction. He then ordered them to be carried to Wampo, and, in the most public place of the town, to be chained, together with several other malefactors, with a wooden collar about their necks, and a paper pasted upon it expressing their crimes. These collars are about three feet square, made of two boards, having a semicircular vacancy on each side, which, when joined, exactly fit the neck. They may sit, but cannot lie down with them. I have seen

a score of them fitting at once opposite our factory.

Every person in dealing with the Chinese, should thoroughly inspect their goods, and should be particularly careful of their weights and measures. You must carefully observe that the beam be not longer on one side than the other. Some of them have holes or notches at each end of the beam, by which they can, by hanging the scales in the one or the other, diminish or increase the weight considerably : in others the beams may be pulled out or contracted on one side : but that which is least discernible, and most apt to deceive you, is, when the nut or centre of the beam is made to slide, which they can do by a slight of hand not easily observed. It is, indeed, so difficult to know all their tricks, that you cannot be thoroughly safe, unless you weigh every thing after them in English scales. Those, also, who have confided in their package have been no less deceived, than those who have trusted to their weights. They have found chests, boxes, tubs, and canisters so exactly imitated

tated and marked, with damaged goods, or things of little value, and put in the place of fresh goods, that our people made no doubt that all was right, till they found out the deception upon their unpacking them in England.

AMOI, another town N. E. of *Canton*, in the province of *Fokien*, was formerly much used by the Europeans. But the extortion of the Mandarins at that place, is now grown to such a height, that our European merchants reap little profit by trading thither. Another reason why the European merchants frequent *Canton*, is, that whole fleets may be freighted there in a short time, without running the hazard of being retarded till the Monsoons set in, by which their voyage might be protracted till another season. Many of the great merchants at *Amoy* come to *Canton* to deal with the Europeans.

It is absolutely necessary for every ship bound to *Canton*, to settle preliminaries with the *Happoes*, or commissioners of the customs, before they go far up the river, or at least before they begin to unload any goods, otherwise they will be most into-

lensibly imposed upon. And it is of dangerous consequence to let the Chinese know the full value of the ship's cargo; at least, it is necessary to conceal part of the bullion, &c.

Mr. James Flint, an Englishman, who has resided at Canton since he was a boy, and who acts as the company's agent there, for which he has 90 *tael*\* allowed him from every ship, speaks the Chinese language, is acquainted with all their customs, and, when no English ships are at that port, he dresses in the Chinese manner, and wears a long lock of hair like a native. He is yet no very old man, and I believe is now more of a Chinese than an Englishman. His chief employment is to be subservient to the supercargoes, in interpreting, &c. But it is observed, that he is under such awe of the Chinese Mandarines, or so much a Chinese himself, that he cannot assume that native boldness or bravery peculiar to a Briton, in defending the rights, or demanding justice for his countrymen.—When we were there, he

\* He was in England in 1744, when the above salary was settled on him.

dressed

dressed after the English fashion, and resided in an English factory, attended by a Chinese servant.

As soon as the European ships come to an anchor at Wampo, a couple of *Happo* or customhouse boats, are placed on each side of them, to see that nothing is smuggled out of or into the ship. They search every chest, &c. that they suspect, and sometimes even our pockets don't escape them. Yet I have seen many small things carried aboard without their notice; such as *gongs* \*, bows, arrows, and other things that are strictly prohibited to be exported; and sometimes the Chinese themselves assist our people in bringing them on board.

We have already observed, that all boats, whether our own or those of the Chinese, that go from our ships or Banksalls with European goods or passengers aboard, bound for the factory, must have a *chop* or permit from a customhouse officer; which must be renewed at every customhouse in their way. There are three *Happo* or custom-houses between Wampo and,

\* A curious whistle.

Canton, situated by the river side, distinguished by having the emperor's yellow colours hoisted upon a long pole before the door. The boat must call at each of these *Happo* houses, to renew the *chop*; the ship's pinnace, however, or other boat, having a captain or supercargo aboard, is allowed to pass without being obliged to stop at any of these *Happo* houses. •

After the supercargoes have agreed with the *Happo* with regard to the duty, and with the merchants about the prices of goods aboard, and what kinds of Chinese goods are wanted to load with; then the customhouse retinue come aboard, measure the ship, and weigh and take an account of all the goods, which are immediately sent up to the factory, or to the merchant's house who purchases them, in a large sampan.

To prevent any embezzlement, there are two or three of the ships company, well armed, sent along with the goods, and a Chinese custom-house officer on behalf of the *Happo*. After they arrive, and are unloaded, the merchant weighs them over again; and the supercargoes after them in English scales.

The



The Chinese merchants having agreed to provide such goods as are wanted, in particular quantities, at a fixed price, and to have all ready against a certain time; the supercargoes attend, view and taste the goods, and order every chest to be packed, tared, weighed and marked; upon which they are carried from the Chinese merchant's warehouse to the factory.

These warehouses are commonly large, full of teas standing in baskets as they are brought from the field \*. It is packed in chests lined with sheet-lead to keep it from wet or damps, which would entirely spoil it. I have seen 200 *coolies* or porters, all naked to the middle, packing and treading the tea in chests. Two of them get into a chest together, and tread it down as it is filled. I make no doubt, but that if some nice British ladies were to see some of these *coolies*, with their nasty feet and legs, perform this office, they would be apt to lose conceit of their beloved plant.

\* Only the coarser teas are here meant; fine Hyson is never unpacked.

The porcelaine or china warehouses are, generally very spacious, and contain large quantities of china, of all sizes and figures, fit for the European market. The supercargoes attend the packing of this article too; for, if a strict eye is not kept upon them, they will sometimes put up china cracked, broken, or of an inferior quality. They have even gone so far as to fill up chests with stones or bricks, in place of the finest commodities; which has not been discovered till they were opened in England.

If the chests are not sent immediately to the factory, or to the ships, after they are packed, it is absolutely necessary to send a man or two to watch them in the merchant's warehouse, otherwise they may be subject to great abuse; and there must be a guard on them all the way to the ships.

The custom-house officers must also be bribed with presents now and then, otherwise they become very troublesome. It is best to feed them from time to time with small presents; for if you give them one ever so large, it will soon be forgot, unless their memories are frequently refresh-  
ed

ed by another. In short, it requires a great deal of patience and cunning to trade with the Chinese. An equal temper, and a smooth tongue, are qualifications absolutely necessary for a supercargo; for they must be dealt with in the same crafty manner that they deal with others.

A private trader that buys a quantity of goods in chests, tubs, or boxes, must get a clearance from the merchants, to enable him to get his goods aboard, for which he pays a small matter extraordinary. The merchant writes his name, or pastes a small bit of printed paper upon the chest, &c. by which the Mandarines, who weigh all the company's goods as they are shipp'd off, know what merchant to debit for the duty; which they collect at their leisure. The chests, boxes, &c. that have the merchants *cheep* or mark are seldom opened; yet I have sometimes seen even these inspected by the Mandarines, on suspicion that they contained goods of greater value than they were marked at. When a fraud is detected, I know not exactly how they settle matters, but it is probable the merchant is fined.

A private man (who picks up trifling articles here and there, must collect them in a chest before they are sent aboard; and use his interest with the Linguist, or one of the customhouse retinue, to take a note of such things as pay duty, who will carry it before the *Happo*, along with the key of the chest; and if the *Happo* put his mark upon it, the chest passes without further trouble, and the key is returned. All goods, in chests, &c. must have the *Happo's chop* or mark upon them, otherwise they will be seized.

Every thing is sold by weight in China; flesh, fowls, fruits, rice, &c. and even liquids. To increase the weight, I have known them cram their poultry with stones and gravel. For when we left China, we bought a number of geese, ducks, hens, &c. that were so stuffed and crammed with gravel to increase their weight, that one half of them died before we could use them.

The Chinese won't scruple exchanging a live hog for a dead one, if the latter is a little larger; for they like them as well when they die of a distemper, as when killed

killed by a butcher. For this purpose they will sometimes give such hogs as we purchase a dose to kill them soon after they are brought aboard; and when we are obliged to throw them away, they will take them up, and sell them over again to their own people. An instance of this kind happened to us. We had a cow aboard which we had brought from Batavia, that had calved in our passage; but we soon found that one of the Chinese custom-house officers had found means to give them something that killed both of them. When we threw them over board, we saw the fellow whom we had suspected to have poisoned them, with his accomplices, take them up into their boat.

One day, a bullock dying at our bank-fall, we were at the trouble to bury it in a swamp, and to keep a watch over it two days, by which time we imagined the carcass would be rendered unfit even for a Hottentot's stomach; yet we found ourselves mistaken, for it was dug up the third night, and carried clear off.

Their hogs, sheep, poultry, &c. thrive very well aboard our ships, if they are not previously poisoned or crammed. The  
hogs

### 314 *Of CHINESE MERCHANDIZE.*

hogs are all black, with thin hair, hollow backs, their bellies reaching to the ground, and generally very fat. Their flesh is white and tender.

I never saw any butter in China, having used none while there, unless what we brought with us from England.

### *Of CHINESE MERCHANDIZE.*

THE gains in a China voyage chiefly arise from the goods imported from China, and not from what are carried thither. We buy the most part of their goods with silver. Lead is almost the only commodity for which our merchants get more than prime cost. We carry also scarlets, blue, black, green and yellow broad cloths thither. But the remnants, or small pieces which we get cheap in England, turn to better account, than whole pieces. Of these small pieces the Chinese make long purses which hang by their side, tied by silken strings to their girdle.

The following goods turn also to pretty good account, if they can be conveyed ashore without paying the duties, otherwise

wife the charge and trouble will be equal to the profit, viz.

Large looking-glasses,

Coral branches,

Flint ware for shamshue-cups,

Ordinary horse pistols with gilt barrels,

Old wearing apparel of scarlet or blue cloth,

Sword blades about 14 s. *per* dozen,

Spectacles set in horn, about 8 s. 6 d *per* dozen,

Clocks and watches of small price,

Small brass tweezer cases,

. Any new toy not before imported.

Goods imported from China, are teas, porcelaine, quicksilver, Vermillion, and other fine colours; china root, raw and wrought silks, copper in bars, of the size of sticks of sealing wax, camphire, sugar-candy, fans, pictures, lacquered ware; soy, borax, lapis lazuli, galingal, rhubarb, coloured stones, tutanague, i. e. a sort of tin; gold, with many things made of mother of pearl.

Green tea is drank in India, Persia, and all the Eastern nations. Bohea is little esteemed by them. *Singlo* or green tea is to be chosen by its fine smell, and light colour; for if any of the leaves appear brownish or withered, it is not good.

Imperial

### 316 *Of* CHINESE MERCHANDIZE.

Imperial or *Bing* tea is still lighter than green tea, of a pleasant smell, but not so strong as *singio*. If it once lose its crispness, it is good for little; which it will do, tho' very fresh and good when bought, if great care is not taken in packing it.

Altho' the exportation of gold be prohibited, the Mandarines themselves sell it in a concealed way, to the European merchants. Ten tael weight of gold touch 92, bought at touch for touch, (the most governing price) amounts to 1116*l.* 8*dwt.* 5*gr.* *per cent.* Ten tael of silver, at 5*s.* 6*d.* *per cent.* is 30*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* for which you have 12*oz.* 2*dwt.* 4*gr.* worth about 4*l.* an ounce in London, is 48*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* and makes upwards of 58 *per cent* profit. But gold is a commodity that is seldom bought there by any but those who have more money to lay out than they have either room or privilege in the ship, which seldom happens. There are a great many sorts of goods on which they may make 5 or 600 *per cent.* if got ashore in London without paying duty, and sold to proper hands.

A great deal depends on a person's knowledge of what things are likely to take in England, and at what price they are



Of CHINESE MERCHANDISE. 317

are commonly sold. If a private trader would improve such a voyage to advantage, he should consult with the hardware, china, or toy merchants in London, before he goes, and should carry with him patterns or shutters by which things may be made or painted in China; for the Chinese workmen of all professions are so ingenious, that they will imitate any thing that is shown them to the greatest perfection and exactness.

*Price of goods sold at Canton by the English company, 1747-8.*

Lead per pecul of 133 lb. from three tael to three tael six mace.

Scarlet cloth per cattie, of 20 oz. Adversupors from three tael to four tael.

Slips of ditto, from three tael to three tael five mace.

Looking-glasses per square foot, from one tael five mace to two tael.

*Prices of Indian goods carried from Batavia, and sold at Canton.*

Pepper, per pecul of 133 lb. from eight tael to ten tael.

Bees-wax

318 PRICES of GOODS, &c.

Bees-wax *per ditto* from twelve *tael* to fourteen *tael*.

False amber *per ditto* at twelve *tael*.

Fine amber *per ditto* from one hundred *tael* to one hundred and ten *tael*.

Rozin allas *per ditto* at sixty *tael*.

Block tin at eleven *tael*.

Pitchuck at twenty two *tael*.

Birds nests *per cattie* of 20 oz. from two *tael* five *Mace*, to three *tael*.

Opium *per ditto* at six *tael*.

Four hundred pound net English weight, is equal to 3 *peculs* Chinese weight. One *pecul* Chinese weight, is equal to 133½ *lb.* English weight. Sixteen *tael* is equal to 1 *cattie*.

*Prices of goods bought at Canton by the English company, anno 1747-8.*

BOHEA TEAS.

Common bohea *per pecul* of 133 *lb.* from thirteen *tael* to fifteen *tael*.

Congo from twenty five *tael* to thirty *tael*.

Souchong from thirty five *tael* to seventy *tael*.

GREEN TEAS.

First singlo at thirty *tael*.

Second

Second ditto at twenty five *tael*.

Third ditto at twenty two *tael*.

Fourth ditto at sixteen *tael*.

Best hyson at sixty *tael*.

Second hyson at forty five *tael*.

Hyson gobi at sixty six *tael*.

#### OTHER TEAS.

Uchang at forty *tael*.

Imperial at thirty eight *tael*.

RHUBARB ROOT from eleven *tael* to twenty eight *tael*.

Opium is an advantageous commodity when carried to China, but must be sold privately, for the importation of it is strictly prohibited by the Emperor.

The porcelaine or china is so various in quality and fashion, that it is impossible to fix a price. I have seen exquisitely fine enameled work, which, I believe, would bring more profit than teas, or the china-ware which takes up a great deal of room, and is liable sometimes to suffer great damage. These enameled vessels must be smuggled from Canton to the ships; for the duty on all metals there is as much as the prime cost, and amounts almost

almost to a prohibition of the exportation of them.

*Of Chinese COIN and MONEY.*

**N**EITHER in Canton, nor indeed throughout the whole empire, are any coins struck, excepting the *Li* or *Cash*. This *Li* is made of the scum of copper, mixed with other coarse metal; it is somewhat larger than our English farthing, but thinner, with some Chinese characters on each side, and in the center of each *Cash* is a square hole in order to put them on a string, for the ease of numbering. Instead of coins they cut their gold and silver into small pieces of different weights. There is almost no gold used in our dealings with them, it being about 50 *per cent.* cheaper there than in Britain. We therefore use silver as the current money in traffick.

As the Chinese pay no regard to coin, so all goes by weight. Nor do they regard the workmanship of any thing in silver; it is the same to them when melted down, as in the finest work.

# Of CHINESE COINS and MONEY. 321

Their weight for silver, by the names of which they denominate any piece of money, are called

By the Chinese, *Leang*, *Tsean*, *Foan*, and *Li*.

By the Portuguese, *Tael*, *Mas*, *Candarins*, and *Cash*.

By the English, *Taels*, *Mace*, *Candarins*, and *Cash*.

The *Leang* or *Tael*, is equal to 6 s. 3 d. sterling, which is divided into ten *Tsean* or *Mace*, equal to 7 d. sterling each. These are each again divided into ten *Foan* or *Candarins*, equal to 1 sterling, and each of these are divided again into ten equal parts, called *Li* or *Cash*, equal only to the tenth part of three farthings.

Our English crown passes currently for eight *mace*, tho' it oftener weighs less than more. It is from this that I value the *Tael* at 6 s. 3 d. tho' commonly reckoned 6 s. 8 d. For,

Eight <i>Mace</i> , the current value	} l. s. d.
of our crown, is . — —	
	0 5 0

Two <i>Mace</i> more is, at that rate,	} 0 1 3
equal to . — — . — —	
	— — —

So that ten <i>Mace</i> , or one <i>Tael</i> , is	} 0 6 3
equal to — — —	

Y

TABLE

# 322 *Of CHINESE COINS and MONEY.*

TABLE of the Chinese and English money.

## CANDARIN.

				<i>d. qrs.</i>	
1	<i>Candarin</i>	equal	to	$\frac{3}{4}$	sterling.
2	ditto	— —	to	$1 \frac{1}{2}$	
3	ditto	— —	to	$2 \frac{1}{4}$	
4	ditto	— —	to	3	
5	ditto	— —	to	$3 \frac{3}{4}$	
6	ditto	— —	to	$4 \frac{1}{2}$	
7	ditto	— —	to	$5 \frac{1}{4}$	
8	ditto	— —	to	6	
9	ditto	— —	to	$6 \frac{3}{4}$	
10	equal	to a <i>Mace</i> , or	to	$7 \frac{1}{2}$	

## MACE.

				<i>s. d.</i>	
2	<i>Mace</i> ,	equal	to	1 3	sterl.
3	ditto	— —	to	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	
4	ditto	— —	to	2 6	
5	ditto	— —	to	3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	
6	ditto	— —	to	3 9	
7	ditto	— —	to	4 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	
8	ditto	— —	to	5 0	
9	ditto	— —	to	5 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	
10	ditto,	equal to a <i>Tael</i> , or	to	6 3	

TAEI.

Tael.

			l.	s.	d.
2 Tael, equal		to	0	12	6 sterl.
3 ditto	—	to	0	18	9
4 ditto	—	to	1	5	0
5 ditto	—	to	1	11	3
6 ditto	—	to	1	17	6
7 ditto	—	to	2	3	9
8 ditto	—	to	2	10	0
9 ditto	—	to	2	16	3
10 ditto	—	to	3	2	6
20 ditto	—	to	6	5	0
30 ditto	—	to	9	7	6
40 ditto	—	to	12	10	0
50 ditto	—	to	15	12	6
60 ditto	—	to	18	15	0
70 ditto	—	to	21	17	6
80 ditto	—	to	25	0	0
90 ditto	—	to	28	2	6
100 ditto	—	to	31	5	0

This table will be very useful to those who make a voyage to China, for readily finding the value of their money.

The Chinese people keep scales and weights in their pockets, for weighing the money they either receive or pay. They

are put in small portable wooden cases. These scales are made after the manner of the Roman balance, or our English stilliards, called by the Chinese *Litang*, and by us *Dot-chin*.

It is no less the interest of all foreigners to have a case of these about them, to weigh money; as there are a number of sharpers, not only among the common people, but even among the merchants, who have false *Dot-chins*, and a sly way of holding them in their hand to cast the weight to their own advantage.

The Chinese have also a large instrument, somewhat like scissars, for cutting money into such small pieces as they have occasion for, which the English call *Chop-chin*. Even in the using this instrument, they will impose upon you. When I have given a *dollar* to be cut in two, I have lost a *Candarin* or two in the weight. The upper part of this instrument is sharp for cutting the money, and the lower has a slit or socket to receive the upper; but sometimes the upper part, which should be single and sharp, is double and hollow, that in cutting, is filled up with a thin bit of the money which they cheat you of.

The



The larger sort of these instruments are kept in the houses and shops of merchants, and the smaller ones they keep in their pocket.

As the Chinese divide their money into decimal parts, it is very easily reckoned. Instead of using pen and ink, as we do, in their arithmetical computations, they use round timber beads, fixed on wire, or on small pieces of wood, that are again fixed on a long square wooden stand, about an inch deep, much like a common wooden ink-standage.

## JOURNAL

FROM

CHINA *towards* St. HELENA.

ON Monday the 11th of January 1743, at ten at night, the captain and supercargoes came aboard, and next morning the pilot with four passengers, viz. messieurs Martiliat, Dertmont, and Boisier, and Mynheer Hensius, designed for Europe; upon which the ship was unmoored. Monf. Martiliat, who assumed the title of bishop, had been upwards of twenty years in China preaching the gospel. But as there had been lately a great persecution of the christian missionaries, and many of their converts beheaded, strangled and imprisoned, he was obliged to make his escape. He was an old man, and spoke the Chinese language very well. He brought a large collection of Chinese books and habits aboard with him, which he had formerly used. He told

told us, that several other missionaries had fled to the island of *Macao*, and some gone on board the other English vessels. Mons. Derdemont had attended this old man five years, but could not speak the Chinese language; and mons. Boifier, a young man, of French protestant parents, had accidentally become acquainted with the other two gentlemen, who had found means to make him as rigid a papist as either of them. The two clergymen were learned in the European languages, arts and sciences, and made an easy prey of this young novice, who told us, that he was afraid, that when he arrived in France, his father would disinheret him on that account.

At noon, we weighed anchor, as did the *Stafford*, with a light breeze from the N. and at high water, being calm, we towed down with our boats, and came to with the small bower in  $6\frac{1}{2}$  fathoms water, about six miles distance from our first station.

On the 13th, at five in the morning, with the wind at N. E. we towed with the boats a-head till seven, when it fell calm.

On the flood-tide coming on, a fresh breeze sprung up at N. W. with which we steered to the S. till six in the evening, when *Lintin* bore E. by S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  S. distant four miles. At seven next morning we came up with the Norfolk and York, got the the long-boat on the gunwall, and stowed our sheet anchor. At noon the *Grand Ladrone* bore E. N. E. distant about three leagues, when we found our ship failed but badly.

On the 15th, the first part of the day was fair, the latter squally, with a great swell from the E. N. E. We began now to reckon the day from noon to noon, as is usual at sea. At four in the evening the *Grand Ladrone* bore N. N. E. distant six leagues. At one in the morning, the horizon appearing very gloomy, we took in all reefs, handed both topfails, and unbent the sheet and small bower cables. We next got down our top-gallant yards, and set the main-top-sail and the fore-top-sail triple reef'd. We were now in company with the York, Stafford, and Norfolk. At twelve we had the wind at N. E. and, finding the ship to pitch prodigiously, as if about to founder; and to lie

lie very dead in the water, occasioned by her being a great deal too much by the head; we therefore started a considerable quantity of water out of the casks in the fore-hatch-way, which lightened her much.

On the 16th, had cloudy and squally weather with rain, and a great swell from the N. E. We were employed all this day in putting every thing to rights aboard.

On the 17th a hard gale from the N. E. This morning the Norfolk was out of sight astern of us.

On the 18th, the Stafford, in a sudden squall, had her main-top-gallant-mast carried away, which she soon replaced. In the evening fine weather, with a moderate breeze.

On the 19th, 20th, 21st, cloudy, with squalls and rain. Kept company with the York and Stafford, lat.  $8^{\circ} 38' N.$

On the 22d, 23d, and 24th, had fair weather with moderate breezes from the N. E. The first day, we founded, and had 34 fathoms water, sandy ground with shells. The second, we exercised the great guns and small arms. The third day, founded again, and found we had 44 fathoms

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thoms water, muddy ground, lat.  $4^{\circ} 16'$  N. and meridian distance from the *Grand Ladrone*  $7^{\circ} 15'$  W. We bent the sheet and small bower cables.

On the 25th we cleared our decks, as we did not know what we might meet with in the straits of *Banca* or *Sunda*, which we were approaching. Next day, we saw the body of the island *Pulo Ora*, which bore N. W. by W. between eight and ten leagues distant, lat.  $16^{\circ}$  N. .

On the 26th, brisk gales from the N. E. but smooth water; and on the 27th cloudy weather, with moderate breezes. In the evening we saw *Lingen* bearing S. W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  W. distant about seven leagues. At sunrise the southernmost of the seven islands bore E. N. E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  N. distant five leagues. At ten o'clock, saw *Monopin* bearing S. E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  E. distant eight leagues. At noon, having crossed the equator since the preceding day, we found the latitude to be  $1^{\circ} 53'$  S.

The 28th we had fair and pleasant weather, with brisk gales. We sounded, and found from fifteen to eleven fathoms water. At four in the evening *Monopin* high land bore N. by E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  E. distant about three leagues,

leagues, and about sunset, bore N. N. W.  $\frac{3}{4}$  W. distant three miles. We past through these straits last June, of which the reader has an account in the preceding part of this voyage; and nothing more remarkable now occurred, than what was then taken notice of.—Here is a beautiful prospect of an uninterrupted summer, and nature appearing in all its luxuriant wildness. At eleven o'clock at night, not chusing to sail any later, we came to with the stream anchor in eleven fathoms water, clay ground. At sunrise the third point of *Sumatra* bore W. and *Banca* from E. to E. S. E. distant about two miles. At six in the morning weighed, having from ten to twenty fathoms water, till noon, when, *Lallary* high-land bore N.  $\frac{1}{4}$  E. and the east point of *Banca* E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  S. and the first point of *Sumatra* S. E. distant about three miles.—We kept a man at the mast head to observe if any ships were in sight. A small prow passed us, at which we fired to bring her to, but in vain. We hoisted Dutch colours, but without effect. She got off.

On, the 29th, at four in the evening, *Lucipara* bore E. N. E. distant four miles.  
Wind

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Wind N. W. fair weather and moderate breezes. At noon the *Two Brothers* bore N. by E. distant two miles. We saw a ship at anchor to leeward of the *Two Brothers*. She hoisted Dutch colours, and fired a gun to leeward to shew she was a friend. All our fleet edged down, sent their boats aboard, and spoke with her. By this ship we had advice, that twelve English men of war had sailed from thence towards Madras, and six more through the straits of *Malacca*; that there were two English ships lying at Batavia; and that she was waiting for the Dutch China ships, for whom she had packets and stores, sent by the governor of Batavia.—As soon as we had got this intelligence, we stood on our course through the straits of *Sunda*. At sunrise the *North Island* bore W. S. W. *Bantam* point, S. by W. the *Button* S. distant from *North Island* four miles. At noon, the *Cape* bore E. N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  N. the *Button*, N. by E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  E. *Cracotoa*, W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  S. and the third point of *Sumatra* S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  W. distant off shore two miles.

On Sunday the 21st January, rainy, and moderate breezes. At sunset the second point of *Java* bore S. S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  W. and



*From CHINA towards St. HELENA.* 333

and *Prince's Island* S. W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  W. distant off shore four or five miles. At eight in the morning we anchored with the small bower in thirty five fathoms, opposite to the watering-place in *Prince's Island*. We found riding here, the Lynn, the Dragon, the Onflow, and two Danish vessels, who failed the moment we anchored. We had not yet seen the Norfolk, but were now six ships for England.

February 2d and 3d, we got in water and wood sufficient. But a high gale springing up, we saw the Lynn and Onflow had parted cable, and were adrift; we weighed, and set sail, and all the rest followed. Our long-boats, the last time we sent them ashore to *Prince's Island*, were detained a considerable time by the storm, and it was with difficulty they were brought aboard. All the ships seemed determined not to lose a moment here, but to proceed on their course.

From the 3d to the 16th, the weather was variable, sometimes moderate breezes, and sometimes hard squalls of wind. We had now seven ships in company; but the Onflow, being old, was a great way astern of the fleet.

On

334 *From CHINA towards St. HELENA:*

On the 17th and 18th, we had dark gloomy weather, exceeding hard squalls, with a large swell from the S. E. and often shipp'd large seas.

On the 19th and 20th, it increased into a storm. The ship laboured much. We got down all our top-gallant-yards, lashed all the guns, and knocked open the gun-ports to let the water go as fast out of the one side as it came in at the other. In the night all hands were on deck, with axes ready to cut the masts in case it should become necessary, which we much feared.

On Sunday the 21st, the wind abated a little, but heavy showers, with prodigious lightening in the night continued from N. E. In the morning the horizon began to clear up, and we were all overjoyed at the discovery of a star, as we had not seen either sun or moon, or a star in the horizon for four days past.

On the 22d, the wind abated much, but the swell continued, as is usual after a violent storm. We now set our top-sails again. We discovered some carved work, and other pieces of timber, floating on the water, which we feared might be part of the

the wreck of the Onslow, an old infirm vessel, and put us in pain till we saw her.

From the 23d to the 26th, we had pleasant breezes; on the 24th a little rain, with lightening; on the 25th, N. E. winds, lat.  $26^{\circ} 39'$  long.  $43^{\circ} 52'$  W. variation of the compass  $15^{\circ} 44'$  W. and on the 26th we had cloudy weather, much rain, and great squalls of wind from N. N. W.

From the 27th to the 6th of March, the weather was somewhat variable, but generally fresh. On the 4th and 5th March we saw a ship in distress, with jury masts. Before we came up with her, we discovered something like a man about a mile distance, mounting up with the swell, and falling down again alternately between the waves, making all the signs he could for help. We sent the pinnace to his assistance, who took him up, and brought him aboard, with some boards to which he had tied himself with a fishing line. This man was a Malay, belonging to the ship we saw in distress; who, as he was fishing on the caulker's scaffold over the ship's side, it gave way under him, and he had fallen into the sea, where he had struggled with  
the

the waves three hours before we saw him: His own ship could give him no relief, all her boats being dashed to pieces in the late storm. It was some time before the poor fellow recovered his strength, and was delivered from the apprehension into which his late station had thrown him, tho' we used all possible means to do both. When he was quite restored, we sent him in the pinnace to the ship he belonged to. When the pinnace returned, we were informed, that this was a Dutch ship from Batavia for Europe; that they had only saved their mizen-mast, which falling right off, broke down the poop and round-house, and lodged among the ruins; that she carried thirty great guns, and had been obliged to throw twenty seven of them overboard, to save their lives; and that she was now so very light, that she rolled exceedingly with the swell. We sent her some materials for repairing her, and stood on our course.

From the 7th to the 31st, the weather was very variable, sometimes cloudy and rainy, with squalls; sometimes fair and calm; sometimes prodigious quantities of  
lightening;

lightening, and at other times dreadful thunder, of long continuance.

On the 31st March, we had a fresh trade wind, pleasant weather, and smooth water. Several of our ships company began to complain of swellings in their legs, and others vomited up large worms, the common symptoms of the scurvy.

On the 3d April, we saw several pigeons flying to windward, a certain sign that we were near land; and on the 4th, at five in the afternoon, saw a sail and the land bearing from W. by S. to W. by N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  N. Next morning we came up with the ship, which proved to be a Danish vessel who had been with us at Canton. We got all our boats hoisted out, and sent the pinnace ashore on the island of St. Helena, and immediately came to an anchor and moored.

We found riding here the York and Stafford, with whom, as well as all the rest of the fleet, we had parted in the storm of February 19th. These two had received no damage. The ships and the fort saluted each other with nine guns each at anchoring, repeating the same when the officers went ashore.

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On the 5th arrived the Lynn, capt. Gilbert, all safe, who hoisted his broad pendant as commodore; on the 7th arrived the Grantham, capt. Wilson, from *Ben-coulen*, with pepper; as also the Norfolk and Onflow. This last had suffered much in the late storm, and we were told that her captain (*Congreve*) was dead. On the 8th, the Dragon, capt. Kent, came up, who had also suffered greatly in the late bad weather.

From the 6th to the 24th, the ships were employed in taking in fresh water from *Lemon Valley*, and in landing rice, paddy, beef, &c. which were brought as stores for the island, on the company's account.

On the 24th the commodore made a signal to unmoor, and on the 25th, in the evening, we were all under sail, being eight ships, viz. the Lynn, Stafford, York, Norfolk, Onflow, Dragon, Grantham, and Prince Edward.

From the 24th of April till the 1st of June, nothing remarkable happened. The weather was very variable, but not bad. We went on our course, and were employed almost every day in exercising our guns, and



340 *From St. HELENA towards ENGLAND.*

guns, rung bells, beat drums, &c. as did all the ships in the fleet.

On the 20th the fog began to dispel, and we proceeded northward with variable winds, and a small swell from the S. W.

On the 25th we began to feel it cold and damp, and the more so, that we had so lately come from a scorching climate, in so much that several of our people were obliged to put on two shirts, and two or three jackets. Lat.  $59^{\circ} 41'$  N. long.  $10^{\circ} 48'$  W. from St. Helena.

On the 26th and 27th, the weather still grew colder and colder. Many of the men were dying, and others extremely ill with the scurvy; so that the fleet was but weakly manned. The commodore and our vessel would have put in to the first port, had it not been that we did not care to part company with the fleet, as we were approaching near to the coast of Scotland, and were not certain whether the war between Great Britain and France still continued. We therefore proceeded with all possible speed to double the north of Scotland.

On the 28th, 29th, and 30th, we had fair weather, and the wind at S. W. continued sailing towards the east, and met in  
our



*From St. HELENA towards ENGLAND. 341*

our way, ganets, marots, solan-geese, and other fowls flying about us, with young whales, porpuies, &c. swimming by us, and some of them very near the ship. On the 30th, we were in lat.  $59^{\circ} 42'$  N. long.  $36'$  W.

On the 3d and 4th July, as we were coming in with the islands of Orkney, we saw several small vessels. We brought one to, who informed us, that there was a cessation of arms, and that a peace would soon be concluded between Great Britain, France and Spain; which was no unwelcome news. We immediately proceeded for the firth of Forth.

On the 8th July we came off Eymouth, and sent an express ashore for London, to acquaint the company of our arrival on the coast of Scotland. Here the supercargoes went ashore and took post for London.

On the 9th we came up to Leith road, where we went ashore and refreshed ourselves, and in a few weeks proceeded for London, where we all safely arrived.

# COMPUTATION of the VOYAGE.

Ports and passages.

	Time.	At Sea.		At Port.	
		m.	w. d.	m.	w. d.
From England to St. Helena,	20th September, 1746, to 25th December 1746,	3	1 6	0	0 0
At St. Helena,	25th December, 1746, to 14th January, 1747,	0	0 0	0	0 2 6
From St. Helena to Batavia,	14th January, 1747, to 19th April, 1747,	3	1 4	0	0 0
At Batavia,	19th April, 1747, to 9th June, 1747,	0	0 0	1	3 2
From Batavia to China,	9th June, 1747, to 8th July, 1747,	1	0 1	0	0 0
At China,	8th July 1747, to 12th January, 1748,	0	0 0	6	2 6
From China to St. Helena,	12th January, 1748, to 4th April, 1748,	2	3 5	0	0 0
At St. Helena,	4th April, 1748, to 25th April, 1748,	0	0 0	0	0 3 0
From St. Helena to Scotland,	25th April, 1748, to 9th July, 1748,	2	2 5	0	0 0

So that during the voyage we were

13	2	0	10	0	0
10	0				
23 2 in all, or 658					

And supposing that when we were at sea, we fail'd one hour with another 3 miles, or 72 miles per day, we find that in the whole voyage we fail'd 27216 miles, or 9072 leagues, which is near 454 degrees.

E I . N I





## Directions to the Binder for placing the Cuts.

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